



Public Meeting on Research: Air Pollution Health Outcomes and Valuation

March 22, 2023

Welcome


Elizabeth Scheehle, Chief, Research Division

Bonnie Holmes-Gen, Chief, Health & Exposure Assessment
Branch

Before We Begin...

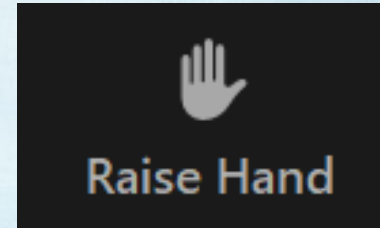
- Meeting is being recorded.
- ADA-compliant slides will be posted on the website (registrants will receive a notice when they are posted).
- If you have any technical issues *during* the meeting, please email my colleague, Dr. Arash Mohegh, arash.mohegh@arb.ca.gov

Agenda

- 9am • Introduction 
- **Research on Air Pollution and Health Outcomes & Community Health Issues**
 - Presentations
 - Panel discussion with Scientific Health Experts
- 11am • **BREAK (10 min)**
- **Approaches for Health Benefit Valuation**
 - Presentations
 - Panel discussion with Scientific Health Experts
- 12pm • **Public comment**
- **Closing**

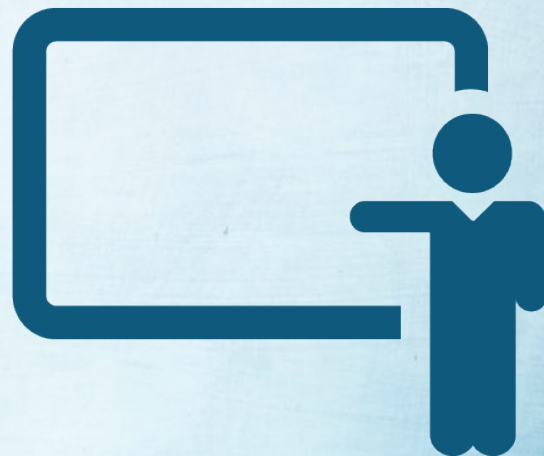
Format for Public Comment

- We will have a public comment period at the end of the meeting
 - To provide verbal comment, you may raise your hand to be added to the speaking queue. →
 - Leave your hand raised until you are called upon to provide your comment.
 - Comments are limited to 2 minutes.
- Online public comment log will be open after the meeting (registrants will receive a notice when this is open for submissions).



Purpose of Meeting

- Hear about science in the area of air pollution and health
- Better understand the current available research and methodologies to assess and quantify health outcomes and benefits



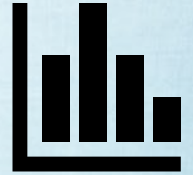
What are Health Endpoints?

- An adverse health outcome used for purposes of evaluating quantitative or qualitative health impacts
 - Examples: mortality and morbidity effects such as premature deaths or hospitalizations from air pollution exposure
- Can be used to evaluate effects from air pollution such as criteria pollutants or air toxics



CARB's Current Health Analysis

- Informs the benefits of CARB regulations, plans, and programs.
- Quantitative analysis: analyzes cases reduced and provides monetization for endpoints including:
 - Cardiopulmonary mortality
 - Hospitalizations for heart and lung causes
 - Emergency room visits for asthma
- Qualitative analysis: summarizes health effects, provides directional analysis based on literature
 - Ex. 2022 Scoping Plan Appendix G: Public Health



CARB Board Directed Expansion of Health Analysis

Goal: Develop Methods for More Comprehensive Evaluation of Health Benefits

New qualitative
and quantitative
approaches

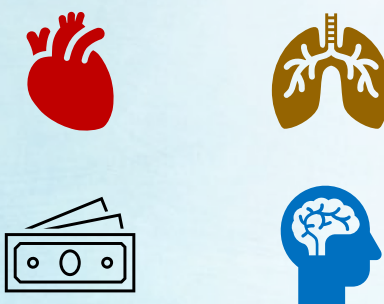
Assess health
impacts in
disadvantaged
communities

Quantify
additional
pollutants

Update health
endpoints from
pollution exposure

Assess and
communicate GHG
reduction benefits

Expanded PM_{2.5} Health Endpoints

Updated Endpoints	New Endpoints
Cardiovascular Hospital Admissions	Cardiovascular ED Visits
Respiratory Hospital Admissions	Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal
Respiratory ED Visits	Asthma Onset
	Asthma Symptoms / Exacerbation
	Lung Cancer Incidence
	Lost Work-Days
	Alzheimer's Disease
	Parkinson's Disease

- Described in Bulletin released Nov 2022
- Initial phase of project to expand health analysis
- Response to recent research and Board direction

US EPA PM_{2.5} Causality Determinations

Health Endpoint	Short-Term (ST) or Long-Term (LT)	2019 ISA Causality
Respiratory Effects	ST	Likely to be causal
	LT	Likely to be causal
Cardiovascular Effects	ST	Causal
	LT	Causal
Metabolic Effects	ST	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
	LT	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
Nervous System Effects	ST	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
	LT	Likely to be causal
Reproductive and Developmental Effects	Male and Female Reproduction and Fertility	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
	Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes	Suggestive of, but not sufficient to infer
Cancer	---	Likely to be causal
Mortality	ST	Causal
	LT	Causal

CARB-Funded Health Research Summary

Recently Completed

Non-exhaust health impacts (UCLA)
PM2.5 and lost workdays (UCLA)

Asthma medication use – GPS inhalers, statewide (UC Berkeley) and SoCal (UC Berkeley)

Ongoing

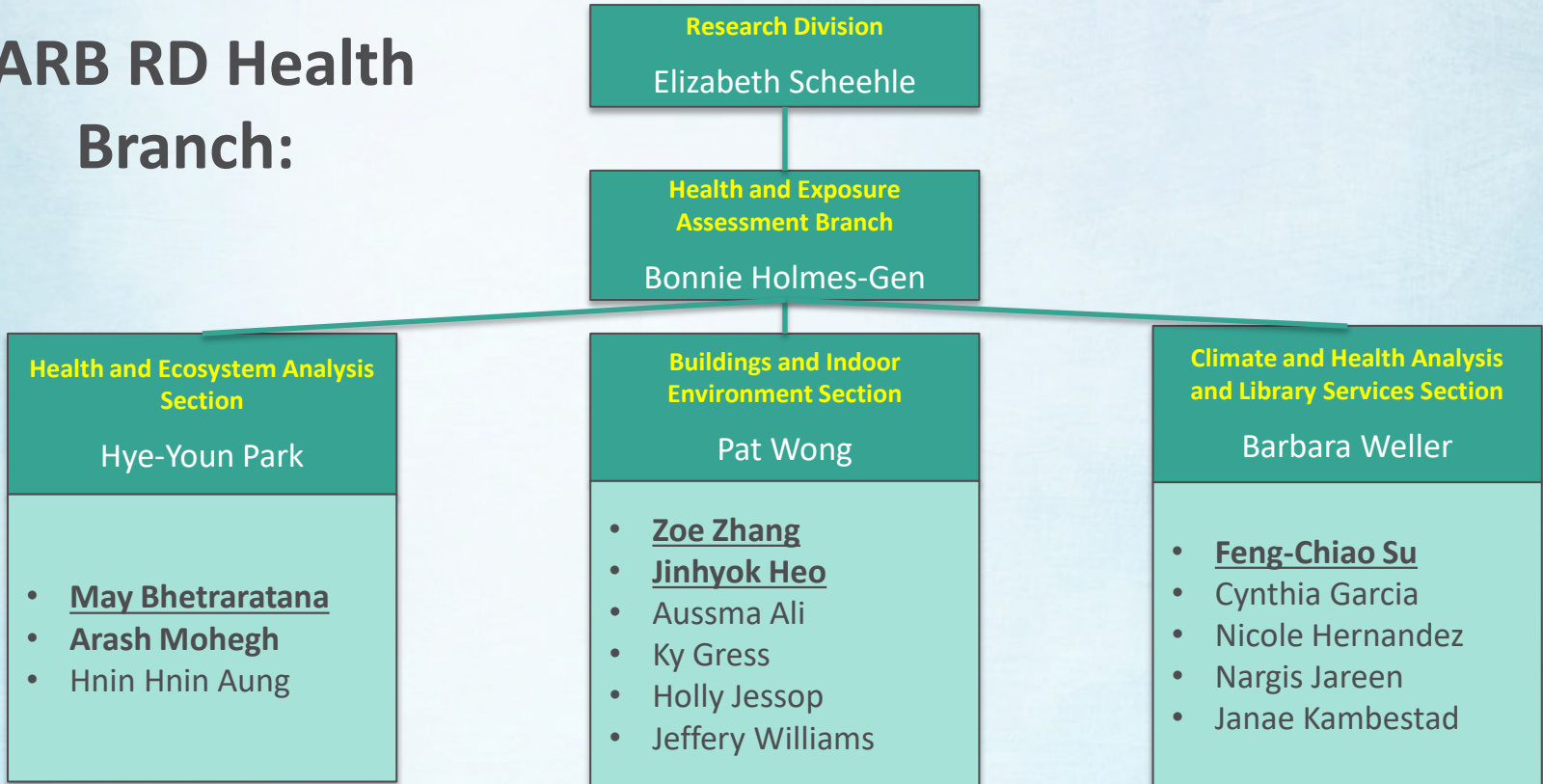
Natural & Working Lands health analysis tool (UCLA)
Birth Outcomes and Neuro-degenerative (UCLA)
Children’s Neuro-development (UC Berkeley)

Tracking health benefits of priority communities (UCLA/PHI)
Sub-chronic effects of wildfire smoke (UCI)
Metabolic outcomes (UC Berkeley)

Upcoming Contracts

Health impacts of land-management to reduce wildfire
Combined impacts of climate change stressors
Health and economic benefits of cancer risk reduction
Impacts of air pollution across multiple generations

CARB RD Health Branch:



Scientific Health Expert Panelists



Irva Hertz-Picciotto, PhD, MPH

Professor and Vice Chair for Research
Director, UC Davis Environmental Health Sciences
Center
Dept of Public Health Sciences
UC Davis, School of Medicine



Michael Jerrett, PhD

Director, UCLA Center for Occupational &
Environmental Health
Co-Director, Center for Healthy Climate Solutions
Professor, Dept of Environmental Health Sciences,
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health



Rob McConnell, MD

Professor of Population and Public Health Sciences
Director, Southern California Environmental Health
Sciences Center
USC



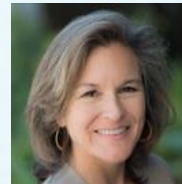
Penelope JE (Jenny) Quintana, PhD, MPH

Professor, Division of Environmental Health and
Associate Director for Student Affairs
School of Public Health
San Diego State University



Bhavna Shamasunder, PhD, MES


Chair & Associate Professor, Urban & Environmental
Policy
Occidental College



Tracey J. Woodruff, PhD, MPH

Alison S. Carlson Endowed Professor and Director,
Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment
& Environmental Research and Translation for Health
(EaRTH) Center
UCSF

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Presenters & Topics:

Research on Air Pollution and Health Outcomes & Community Health Issues



Rupa Basu, PhD, MPH
OEHHA

Topic: birth outcomes



**Stephanie M. Holm, MD,
PhD, MPH**
UCSF

Topic: neurodevelopmental
outcomes



Sadeer Al-Kindi, MD
Case Western Reserve University

Topic: metabolic outcomes
(diabetes)



**Bhavna Shamasunder, PhD,
MES**
Occidental College

Topic: health impacts in
vulnerable communities

Rupa Basu, PhD, MPH

Chief, Air and Climate Epidemiology Section
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
(OEHHA)



Dr. Basu has published extensively on research focusing on examining temperature and air pollution on health outcomes, including mortality, morbidity, and adverse birth outcomes, while identifying vulnerable subgroups. Prior to joining OEHHA, she worked at the US Environmental Protection Agency. She was featured in the Emmy award-winning climate change documentary, *Years of Living Dangerously*, “Mercury Rising” episode with Matt Damon. Dr. Basu’s work is widely cited and has received a lot of media attention, including *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *LA Times*, *SF Chronicle*, *National Public Radio*, and *BBC World News*.

AIR POLLUTION AND ADVERSE BIRTH OUTCOMES

Rupa Basu, PhD, MPH
Chief, Air and Climate Epidemiology Section

Amal Syed, MPH
Research Scientist

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

March 22, 2023



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California Office of Environmental
Health Hazard Assessment

Outline

- Introduction to OEHHA
- Overview of OEHHA's research
 - PM2.5 and constituents
 - Disproportionate effects on minority communities
 - Critical exposure windows during gestation
 - Mental health impacts of PM2.5
- Potential biological mechanisms
- Summary



OEHHA: What We Do

Epidemiologic research on health effects of heat and air pollution

Climate change research and evaluations

Place-based cumulative impact and EJ evaluations

Risk Assessments and risk method development

Biomonitoring

Pesticide community training, monitoring, and peer review

Proposition 65



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PM_{2.5} and PM_{2.5} Constituents Associated with Low Birth Weight

- **Full gestational exposures** to PM_{2.5} and several PM_{2.5} constituents significantly associated with reductions in term birth weight.
- **PM_{2.5} constituents** (sulfur, sulfur dioxide, vanadium, iron, manganese, bromine, ammonium, zinc and copper) had greatest impacts.
- Reductions in birth weight were generally larger among **younger mothers and varied by race/ethnicity** and from traffic-related particles

Basu et al, *Environmental Research*, 2014.



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PM_{2.5} and Constituents also Associated with Preterm Delivery

PM_{2.5} constituents, such as **ammonium, nitrate and bromine** often linked to traffic and biomass combustion most highly associated with preterm delivery

Greater associations for blacks, Asians, older maternal age, having some college education, and gestational weeks 32-34




Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology

424

doi: 10.1111/ppe.12380

Association between PM_{2.5} and PM_{2.5} Constituents and Preterm Delivery in California, 2000–2006

Rupa Basu , Dharshani Pearson, Keita Ebisu, Brian Malig

Air and Climate Epidemiology Section, California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, Oakland, CA



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Health Hazard Assessment

Adverse Birth Outcomes from PM_{2.5} Vary By Race/Ethnicity

Infants born to **Non-Hispanic black people** were more vulnerable to **low birth weight** from PM_{2.5} exposure

Original Research



ENVIRONMENTAL
EPIDEMIOLOGY

OPEN

A quantile regression approach to examine fine particles, term low birth weight, and racial/ethnic disparities

Lara Schwarz^{a,b}, Tim Bruckner^c, Sindana D. Ilango^{a,b}, Paige Sheridan^{a,b}, Rupa Basu^d, Tarik Benmarhnia^{a,e*}



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California Office of Environmental
Health Hazard Assessment

PM_{10-2.5} (Coarse Particles) and Low Birth Weight Varies by Socioeconomic Status

Greater among **Non-Hispanic black people** and **living in the Central Valley**

Science of the Total Environment 653 (2019) 1435–1444



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Science of the Total Environment

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv



Exposure to coarse particulate matter during gestation and term low birthweight in California: Variation in exposure and risk across region and socioeconomic subgroup



Catherine Enders ^{a,b}, Dharshani Pearson ^a, Kim Harley ^b, Keita Ebisu ^{a,*}



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Critical windows of exposure related to **preterm birth**

- PM_{2.5} exposure during a **full pregnancy** had the greatest association with preterm birth
- Gestational **weeks 17–24 and 36** associated with increased vulnerability to exposure

 American Journal of Epidemiology
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Vol. 188, No. 9
DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwz120
Advance Access publication:
May 20, 2019

Original Contribution

Ambient Fine Particulate Matter and Preterm Birth in California: Identification of Critical Exposure Windows


Paige Sheridan*, Sindana Ilango, Tim A. Bruckner, Qiong Wang, Rupa Basu, and Tarik Benmarhnia



Critical windows of exposure related to **stillbirth**

Long-term PM_{2.5} or NO₂ exposure during **entire pregnancy** and O₃ exposure during the **third trimester** associated with stillbirth

Short-term SO₂, O₃ and PM_{10-2.5} associated with stillbirth within one week

 American Journal of Epidemiology
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Vol. 181, No. 11
DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwv460
Advance Access publication:
April 9, 2015

Original Contribution

Association of Stillbirth With Ambient Air Pollution in a California Cohort Study

Rochelle Green, Varada Sarovar, Brian Malig, and Rupa Basu*

Environmental Research 191 (2020) 110103

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

 Environmental Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envres



A case-crossover study of short-term air pollution exposure and the risk of stillbirth in California, 1999–2009

Varada Sarovar^{a,b,1}, Brian J. Malig^{a,*1}, Rupa Basu^a

* Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, California Environmental Protection Agency, Oakland, CA, USA
¹ Division of Biostatistics, School of Public Health, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, USA



Systematic Review on PM2.5, Ozone and Heat Exposure on Adverse Birth Outcomes

- 57 of 68 studies from 2007 through 2019 had statistically significant associations
- Disparities by race/ethnicity and pre-existing conditions such as asthma

JAMA
Network | **Open**[™]

Original Investigation | Environmental Health

Association of Air Pollution and Heat Exposure With Preterm Birth, Low Birth Weight, and Stillbirth in the US
A Systematic Review

Bruce Bekkar, MD; Susan Pacheco, MD; Rupa Basu, PhD; Nathaniel DeNicola, MD, MSHP



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Recent Study on PM_{2.5} and Mental Health

Significant Associations Between Air Pollutants and Mental Health Outcomes

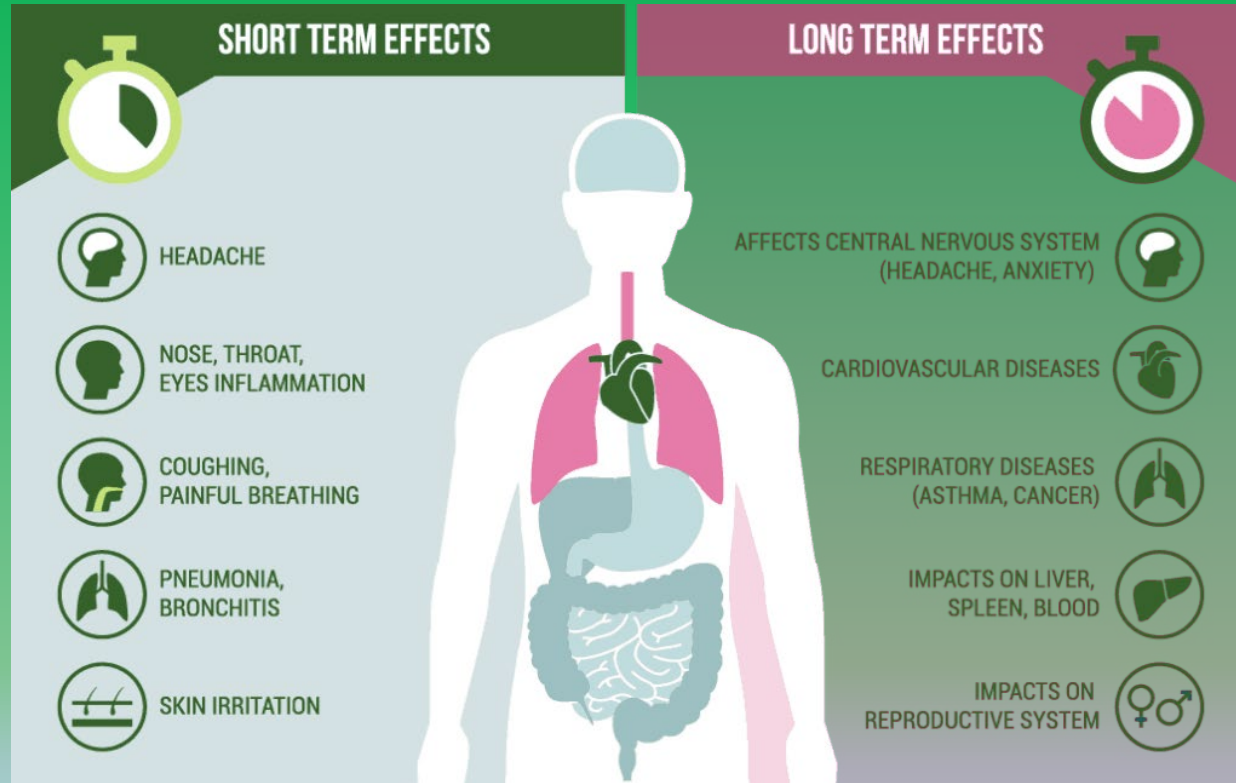
	Same-day Mean PM _{2.5}	7-day Lag O ₃	30-day Lag O ₃
All Mental Health Outcomes	X	X	
Homicide/Inflicted Injury	X		X
Neurotic Disorders	X		X
Depression		X	
Self-harm/Suicide		X	
Bipolar Disorder		X	

Nguyen, Malig and Basu, PLOS One, 2021



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Physiological Effects of Air Pollution



<https://www.myni.life/health-and-wellbeing/what-are-the-effects-of-air-pollution-on-the-human-body/>



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Summary

- Air pollutants are associated with adverse birth outcomes such as low birth weight, preterm delivery and stillbirth.
- In California, these effects were more pronounced with traffic-related particles and among non-Hispanic black people.
- Full pregnancy PM_{2.5} exposure has been found to have a greater impact.
- Important to explore and identify critical windows of exposure for both short-term and long-term particulate matter exposure.
- PM_{2.5} also exacerbates mental health impacts.



THANK YOU!

Questions?
Rupa.Basu@oehha.ca.gov



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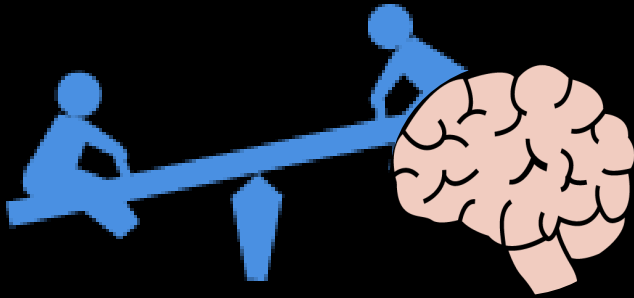
Stephanie Holm, MD, PhD, MPH

Director, Western States Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit

Assistant Clinical Professor, UCSF Division of Occupational, Environmental and Climate Medicine



Dr. Holm received her medical degree in 2011 from the University of Pittsburgh and her PhD in 2021 in environmental epidemiology at UC Berkeley. She is board certified in both pediatrics and occupational/environmental medicine. She is the Director of the Western States Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit, which works on education and research translation of environmental health topics for the public. Her ongoing research activities include work on outdoor air pollution and its effects on metabolic and neurologic outcomes in children, as well as work on cooking-related indoor air pollution and associated health effects in children.



Neurodevelopmental Health Outcomes from Air Pollution

Stephanie Holm, MD PhD MPH



Outline



Mechanisms



Air pollution effects on the brain throughout lifecourse



Why children are particularly vulnerable



Neurodevelopmental effects of air pollution exposure prenatally and in childhood



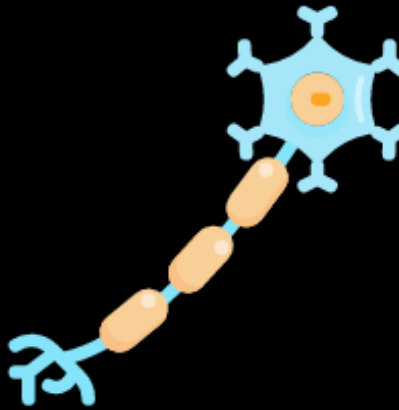
Some of my work in the area

Mechanisms



Increased
Permeability of the
Blood-Brain Barrier

Costa et al 2017, Calderon-Garciduenas 2008,
Oberdoerster et al 2008, Oppenheim et al 2013



Direct Effects on
Neurons

Fagundes et al 2015, Solaimani et al 2017, Wei et al
2016, Klocke et al 2018

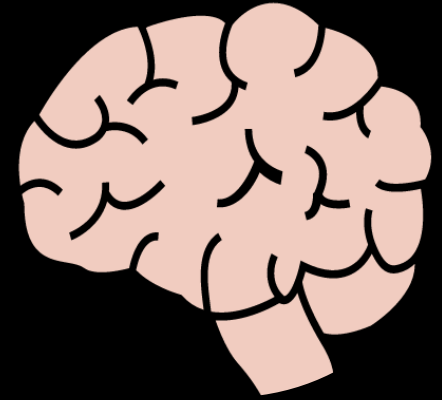


Systemic
inflammation leading
to Neuroinflammation

Bolton et al 2012, Bos et al 2012, Levesque et al 2011,
Calderon-Garciduenas 2008

Neurodevelopmental effects of Exposure to Air Pollution

- Neurocognitive effects of PM across the life course (Payne-Sturges et al 2019, US EPA 2019, Suades-Gonzalez et al 2015).
- Changes in brain structure and connectivity on MRI (Guxens et al 2022)



Why are Children More Vulnerable?

1. Differences in Physiology that increase Dose
2. Unique Windows of Development
3. Behaviors and Preferences that Increase Exposure



Neurocognitive effects of Prenatal exposures

- Cognition

- Decrease in intelligence in preschool-aged children associated with prenatal exposure to multiple air pollutants including PM, BC, PAH , NO₂
- Some mixed evidence, a large pooling of European birth cohorts did not find neurodevelopmental effects of in-utero exposure (Guxens et al 2014)



Systematic Reviews/Meta-analyses (Clifford et al 2016, Castagna et al 2022, Volk et al 2021). Individual studies (Chiu et al 2016, Jurtado-Diaz et al 2021, Leroxundi et al 2015, Kim et al 2014, Yorifuji et al 2016, Edwards et al 2010, Perera et al 2009, Porta et al 2016, Porta et al 2016, Harris et al 2016)

Neurocognitive effects of Prenatal exposures

- Autism
 - Multiple prior systematic reviews and meta-analyses, strong evidence for perinatal period (prenatal and early infancy) (Volk et al 2021)
- Motor skills
 - Large birth cohort increased PM_{2.5} exposure associated with decrements in gross and fine motor skills, social skills (Shih et al 2022)
- Association with preterm birth and low-birth weight, also associated with neurodevelopmental disorders
 - Recent study showing that cognitive effects are not mediated through preterm birth (Balalian et al 2020)

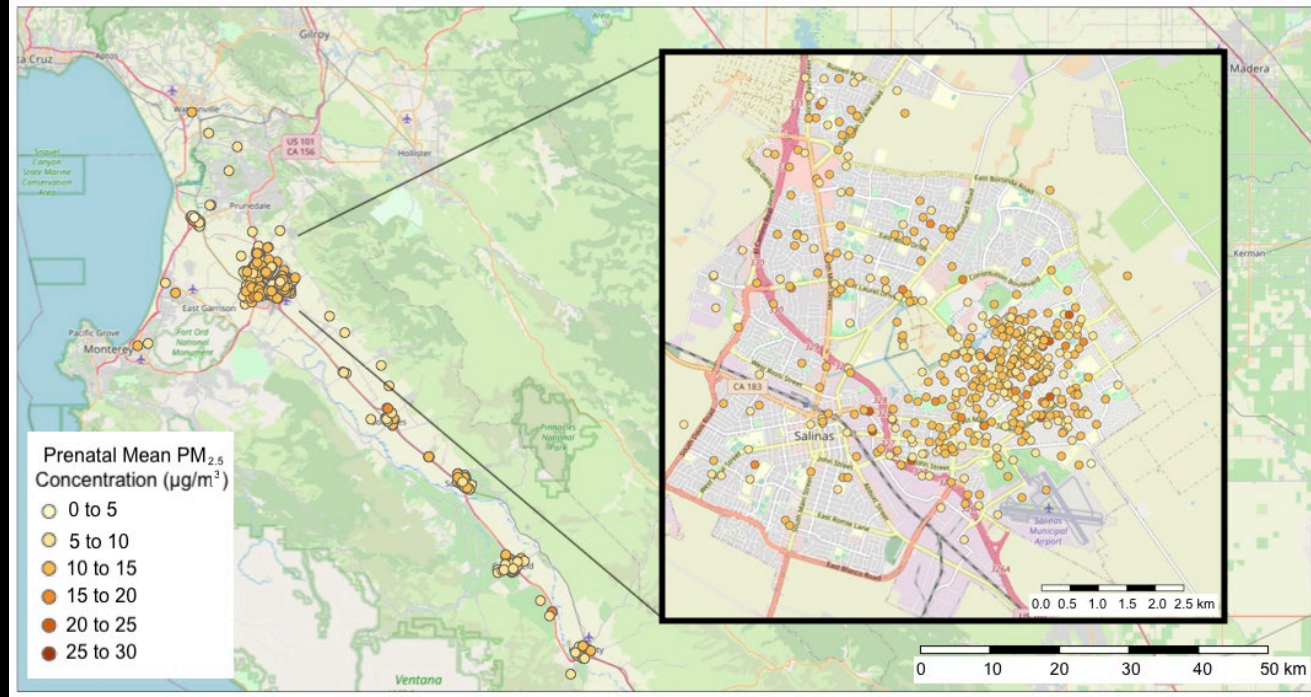


Neurocognitive effects of Childhood exposure

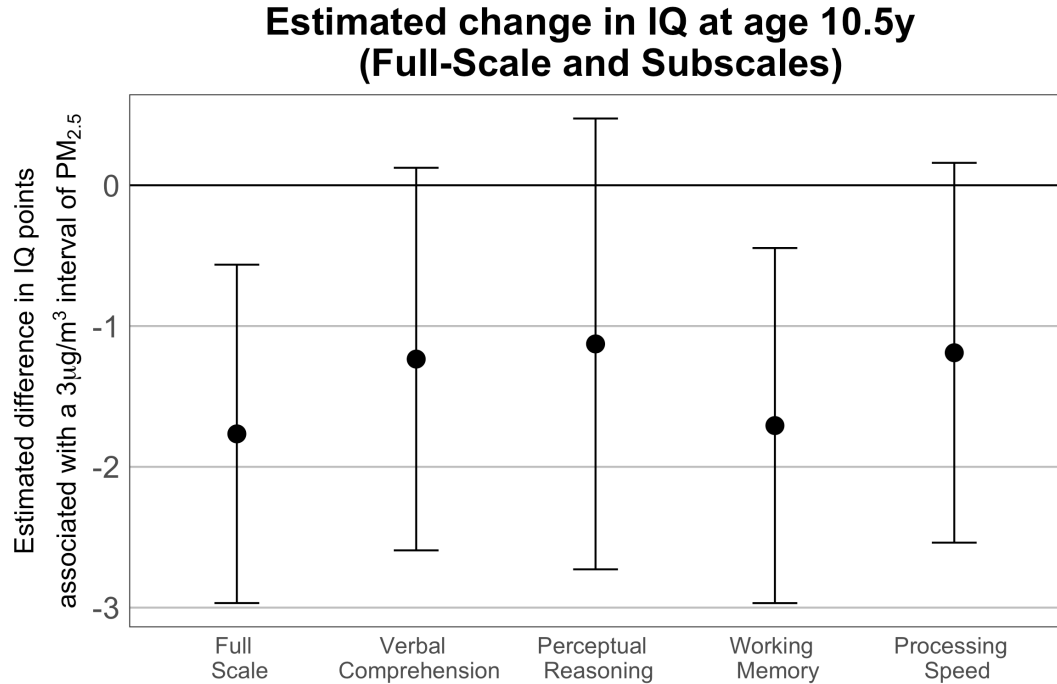
- Cognition
 - PM_{2.5} exposure and decrements in childhood cognitive function (Clifford et al 2018, WHO 2018, Volk et al 2021)
 - School performance (Lu et al 2021, Stenson et al 2021, Sunyer et al 2015, Wang et al 2009)
- Attention
 - In two German cohorts, increased risk of hyperactivity and inattention at age 15 associated with PM_{2.5} (Fuertes et al 2016).
 - 2022 Systematic review describes consistent evidence for attention effects (Castagna et al 2022)
 - Possibly higher risk in those with APOE e4 allele
- Behavior
 - monthly PM_{2.5} levels over prior couple years were associated with increased risk of delinquent behavior in adolescents (Younan et al 2017).



CHAMACOS Prenatal Air Pollution and Child IQ



Key Findings



- Decreases in childhood IQ associated with $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ exposure in-utero (larger effect than previously seen, and in older kids)
- Particularly strong effect in mid-late pregnancy
- Different patterns of effect between groups defined using the sex of the child assigned at birth, both in terms of subscales and timing of exposure

CHAPS: StaCK

Children's Health and Air Pollution Study: Standardized assessments and Cognition in Kids



1
Systematic review:
studies of air pollutant
exposure and
standardized test scores



2
Analysis of PM_{2.5}, diesel
and traffic density in
California schools
regressed on
standardized test
performance

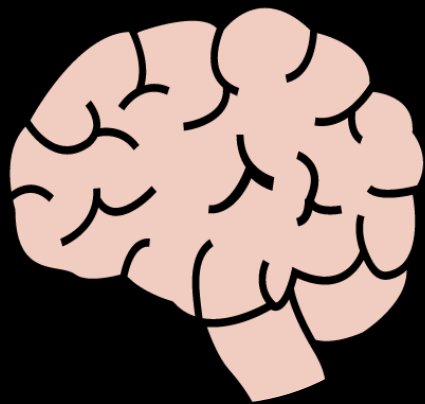


3
Within the CHAPS cohort, assess
cognition, attention, behavior,
mood, standardized test
performance & biomarkers,
associate with PM_{2.5}, NO₂, PAH, BC



4
Estimate benefits to California
of improvements in air
pollution

Summary



- There is consistent evidence of neurodevelopmental effects from both prenatal and childhood exposure to air pollution
 - Further exploration is needed to describe magnitudes of effects, particularly critical windows, particularly sensitive populations, duration of effects
- Shifting the entire distribution of cognition can have huge societal effects
- Effects on cognition and neurodevelopmental disorders can have lifelong impacts that affect health and quality of life (i.e. earning potential)

Thanks!

CHAMACOS



Brenda
Eskenazi, PhD



Kim Harley,
PhD



Katie Kogut,
MPH MSc



Bob Gunier,
PhD MPH



John Balmes,
MD

CHAPS



Nina Holland,
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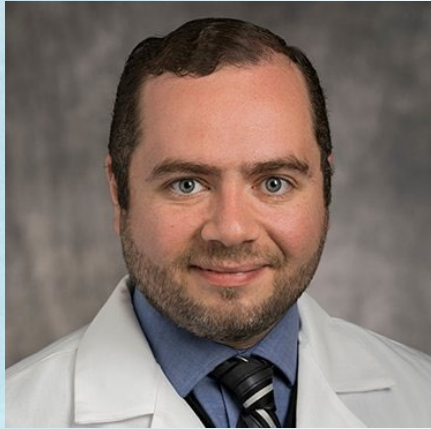
Tim Tyner,
MS



Liza Lutzker,
MPH



John Balmes,
MD



Sadeer Al-Kindi, MD

Cardiologist; Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University

Dr. Al-Kindi is a cardiologist and clinical-translational researcher in environmental health effects and cardiovascular prevention.

Air Pollution and Metabolic Disease: Insights from Mechanistic and Human Studies

Sadeer Al-Kindi, MD, FACC

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Radiology, and Biomedical Engineering

Faculty Affiliate, Swetland Center for Environmental Health

Wolfe Family Scholar in Cardiovascular Research

Director, Cardiovascular Phenomics Core

Co-Director, Center for Novel Approaches in Vascular-Metabolic Disease

Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

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University Hospitals

Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute

Cleveland | Ohio

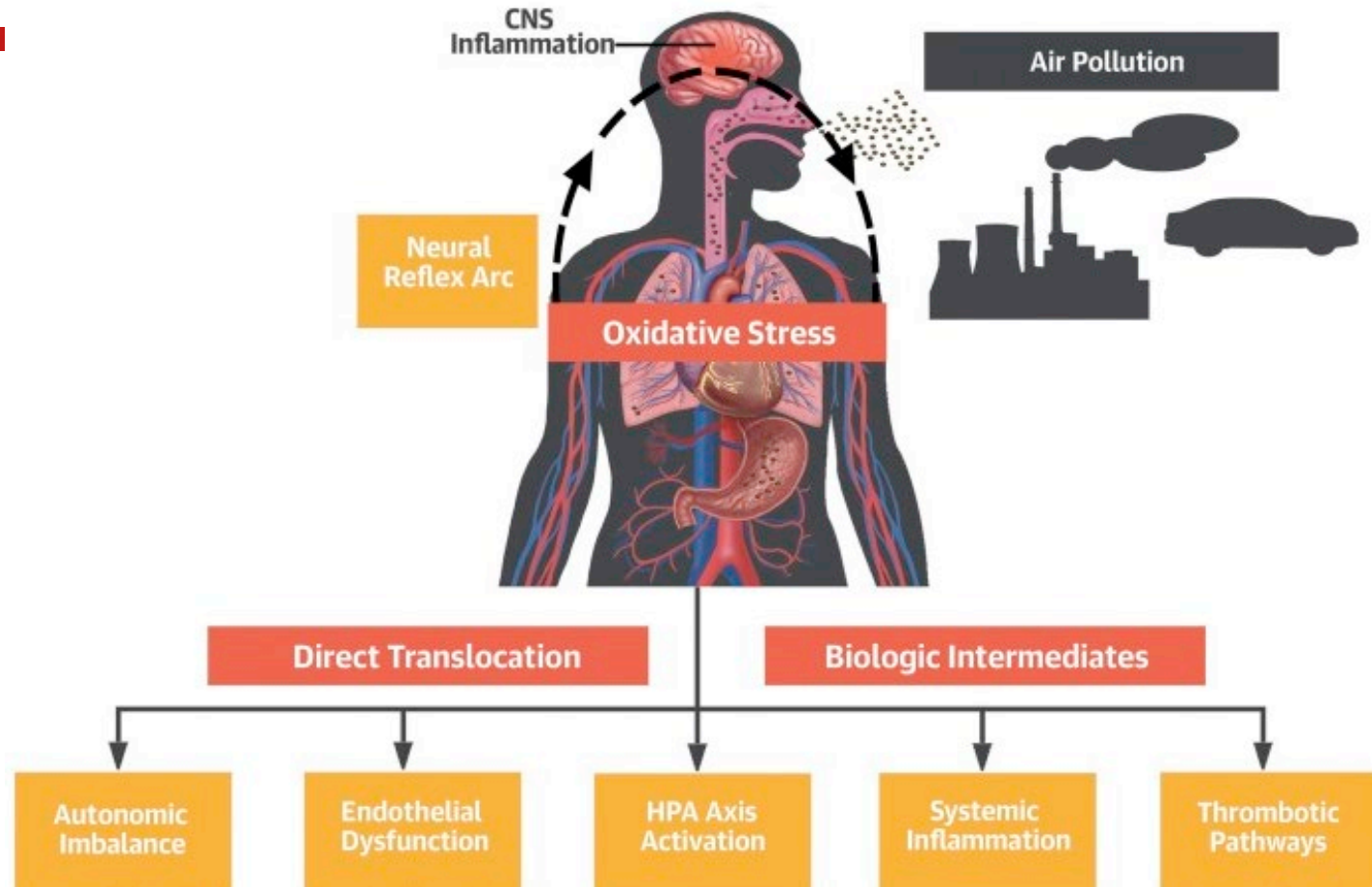


SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

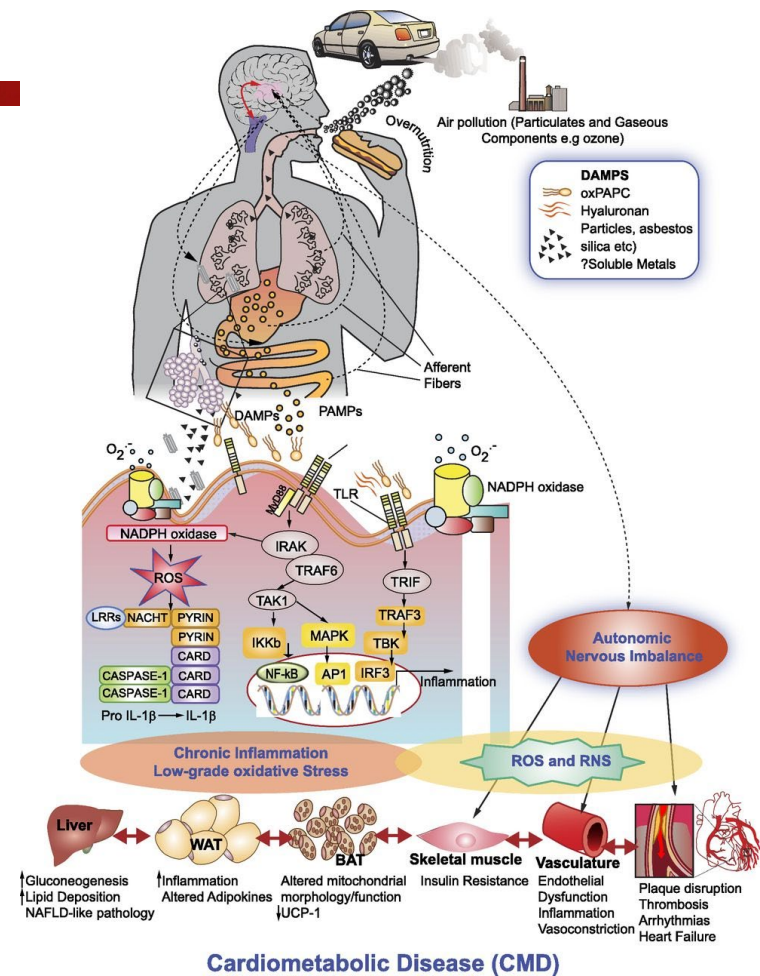
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

Disclosures:

- **No financial disclosures**
- **Investigator on the CARB-funded UC Berkeley Project to Investigate Metabolic Outcomes of Air Pollution Exposure**

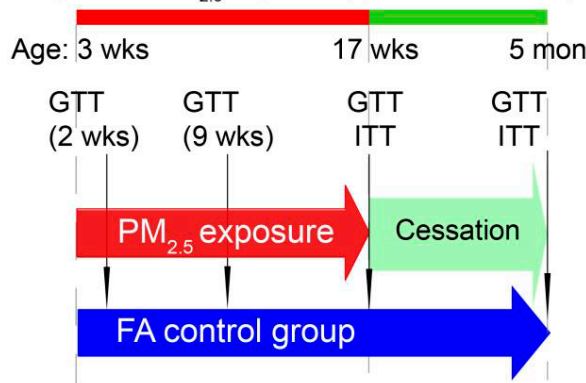


Mechanistic Insights

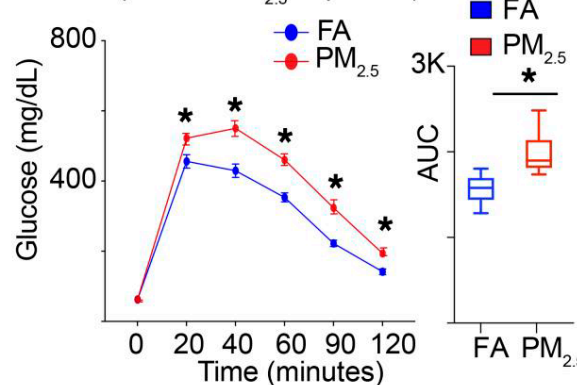


PM_{2.5} exposure leads to insulin resistance + glucose intolerance, and broad transcriptomic changes in insulin-sensitive tissues

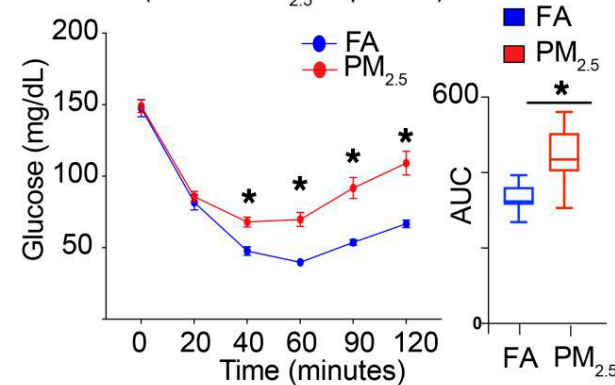
A (14 wks PM_{2.5} exposure) (8 wks cessation)



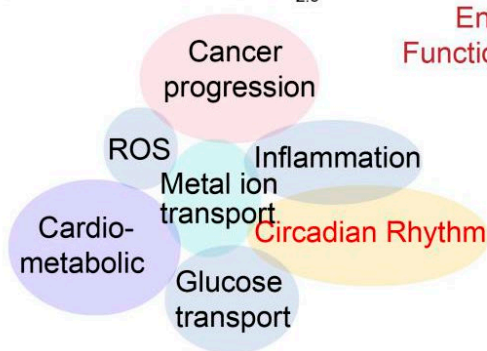
B Glucose Tolerance Test (13 wks PM_{2.5} exposure)



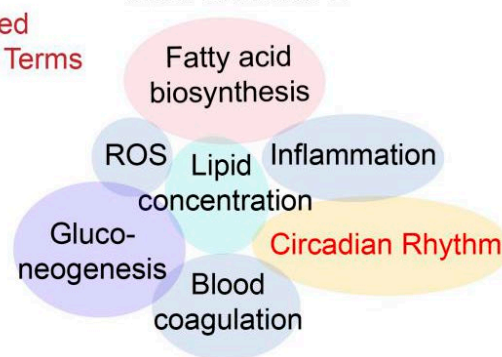
C Insulin Tolerance Test (14 wks PM_{2.5} exposure)



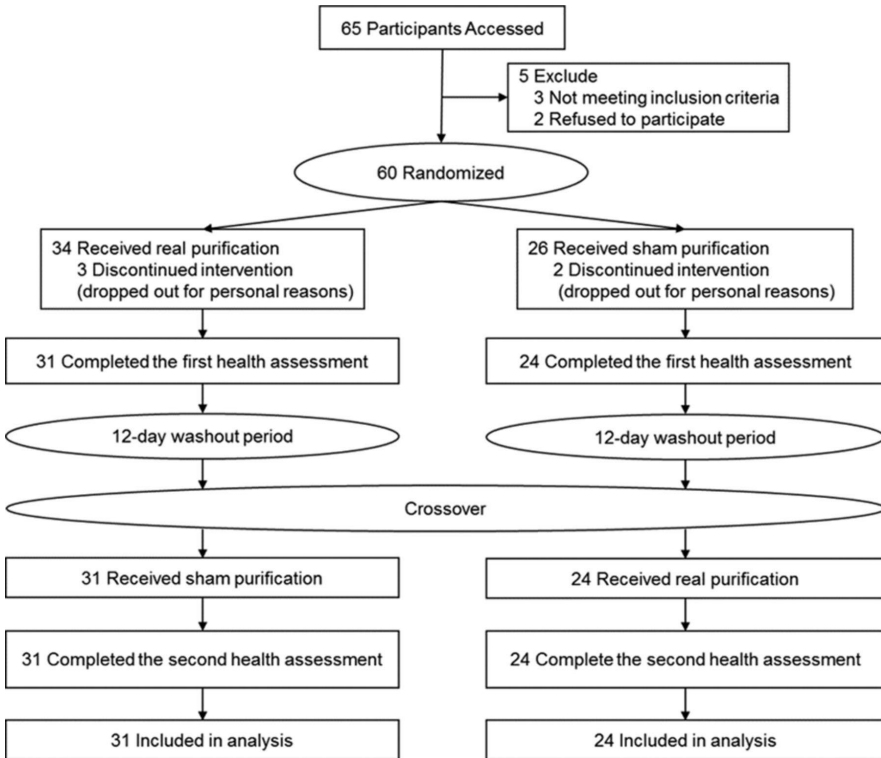
C FA vs. PM_{2.5}



Chow-FA vs. HFD

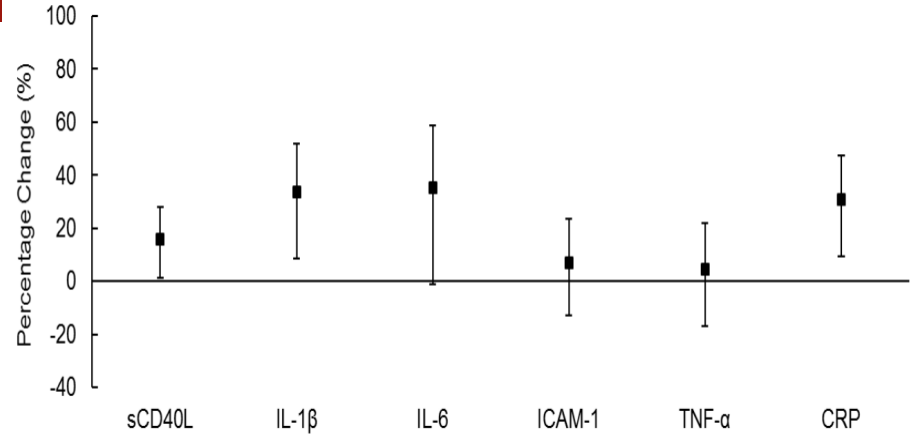


55 healthy college students in Shanghai, China HEPA vs Sham Indoor Air Filtration (9 days with a 12-day washout period)

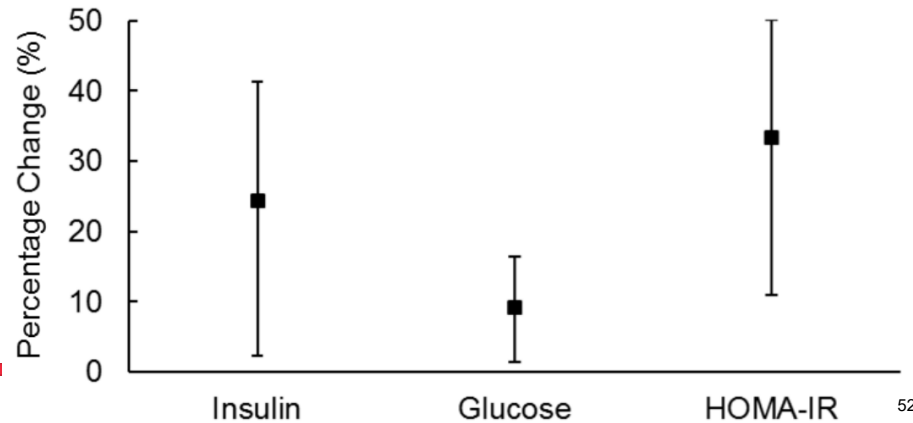


Li et al. *Circulation*. 2017;136:618–627

% Reduction of Inflammatory Markers (HEPA vs Sham Filtration)

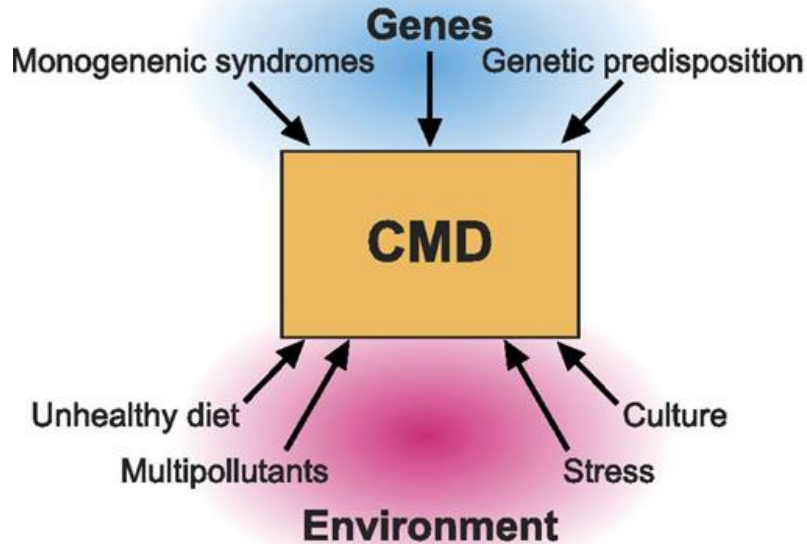


% Reduction of Metabolic Markers (HEPA vs Sham Filtration)

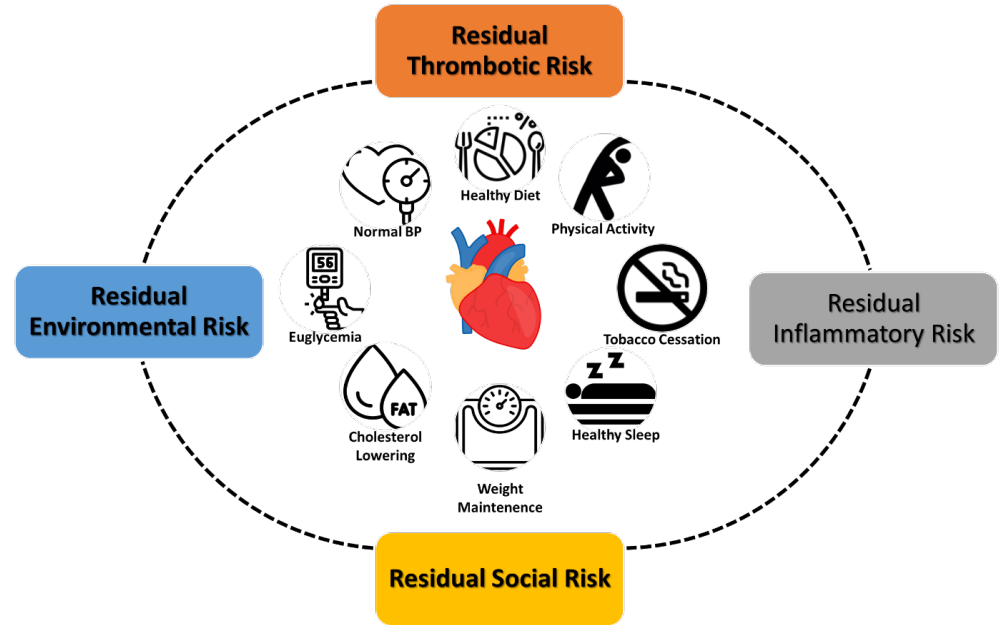


Objectives

Interaction of Risk Factors and Propensity for Cardiometabolic Disease (CMD)

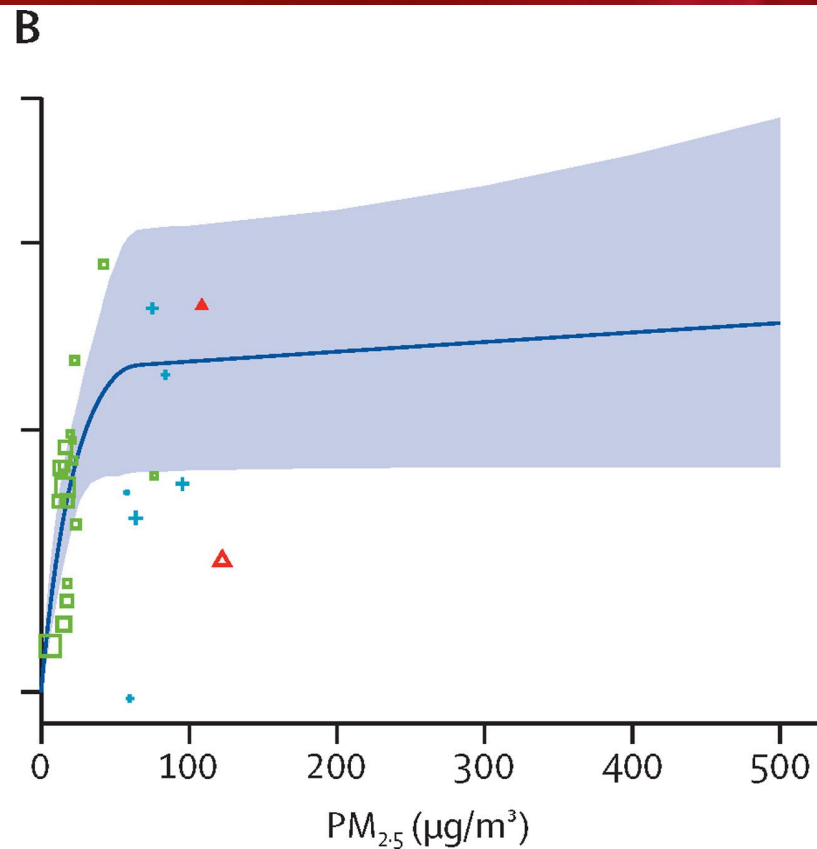
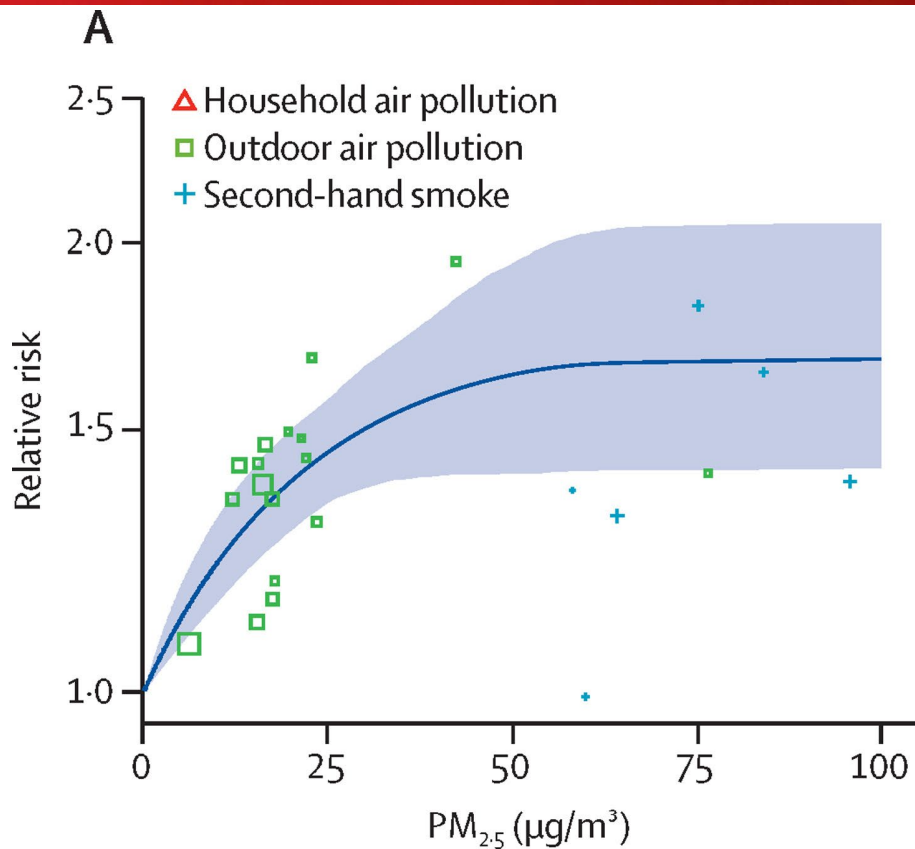


Rajagopalan & Brook. Diabetes 2012



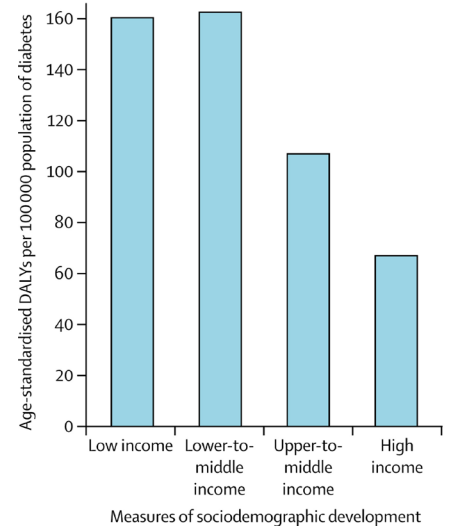
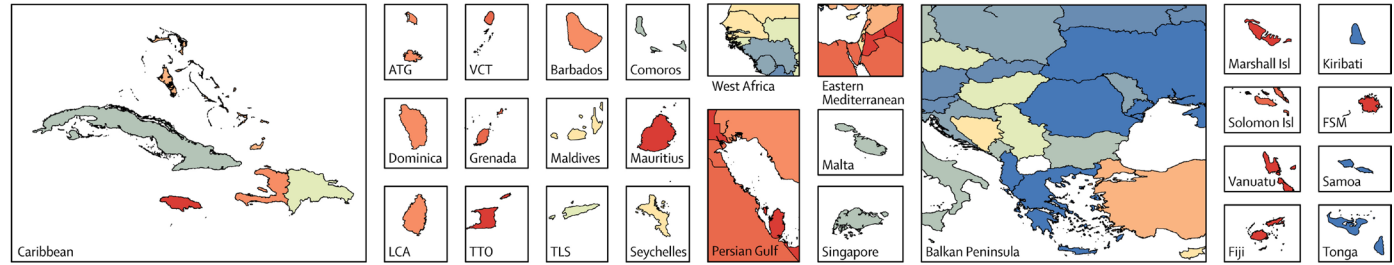
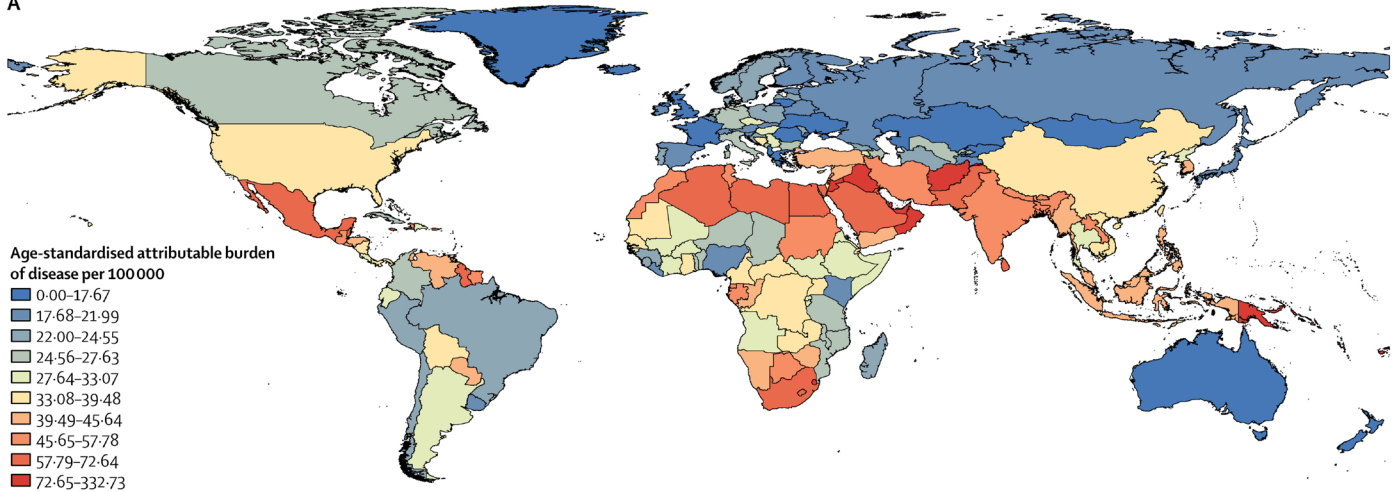
Motairek and Al-Kindi. Endocr Clin 2023

Non-Linear Relationships Between PM_{2.5} and Incident Diabetes

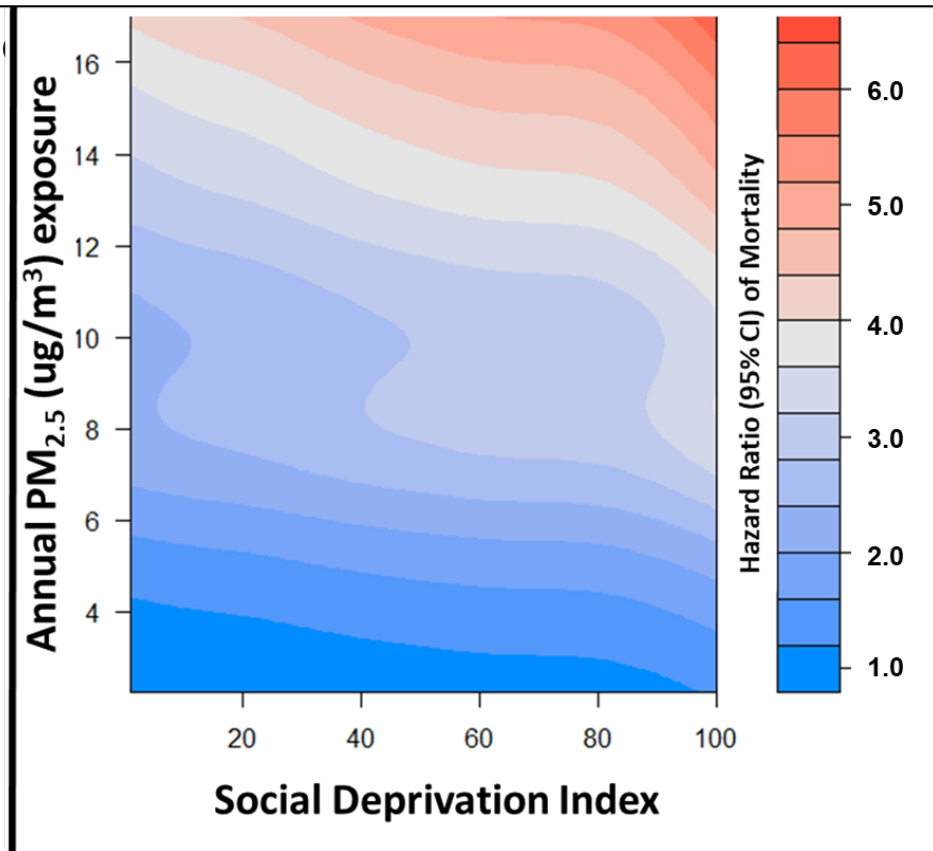
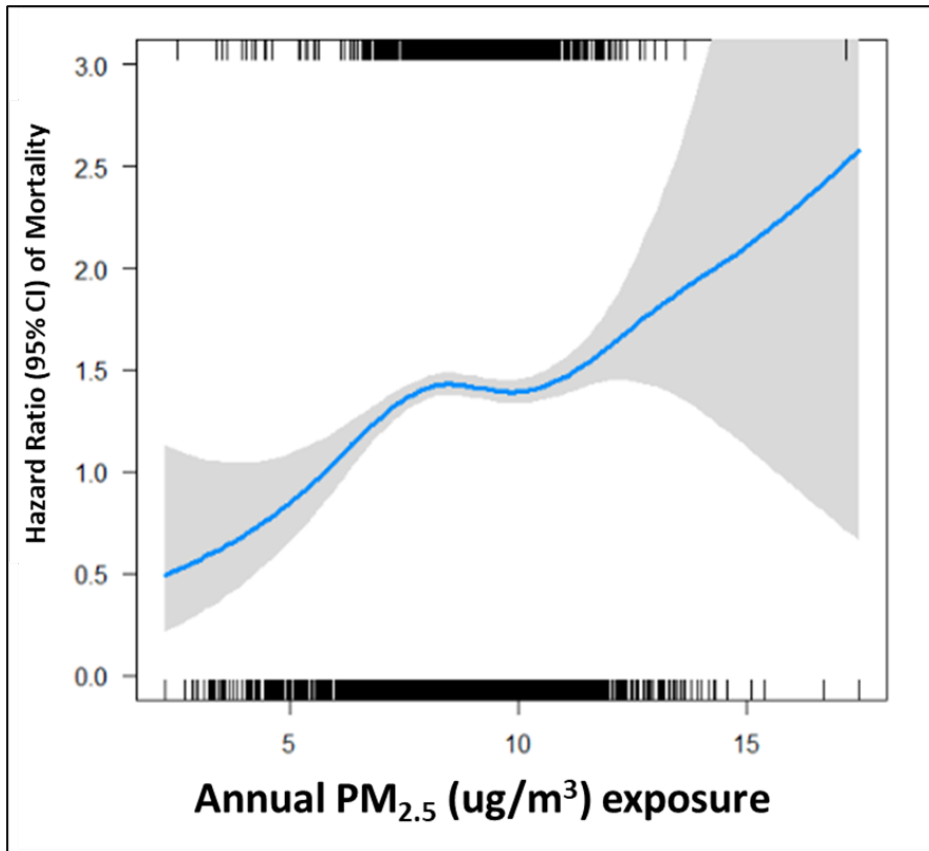


Global Burden of PM_{2.5} Attributable Diabetes

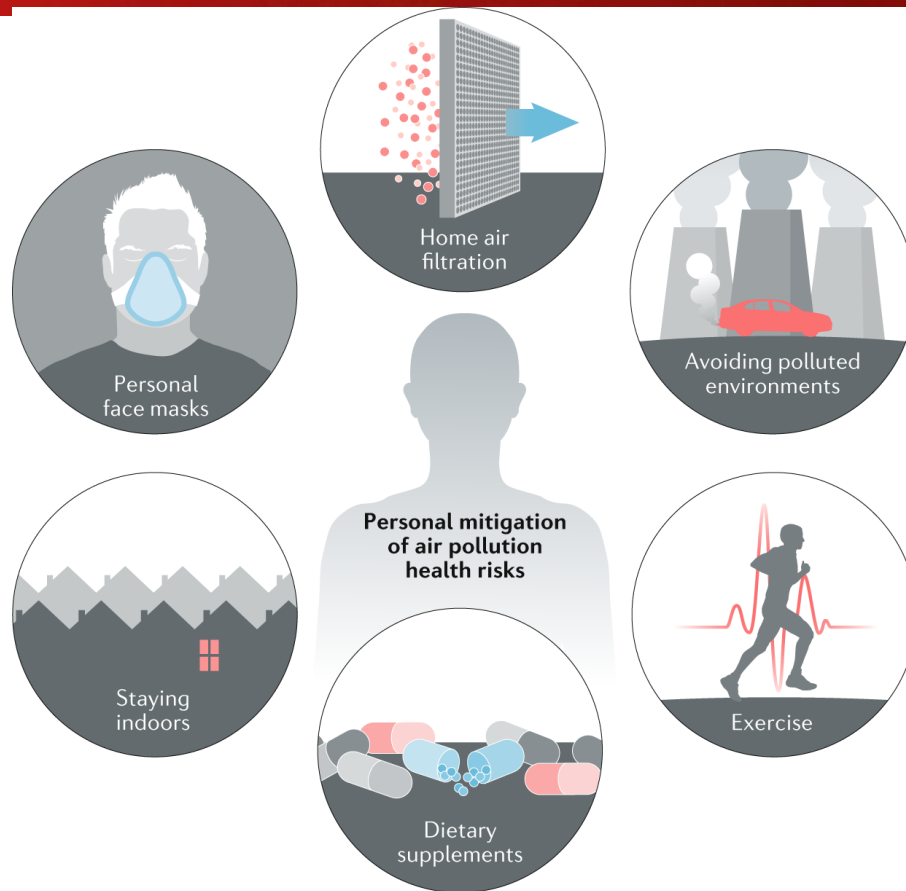
A



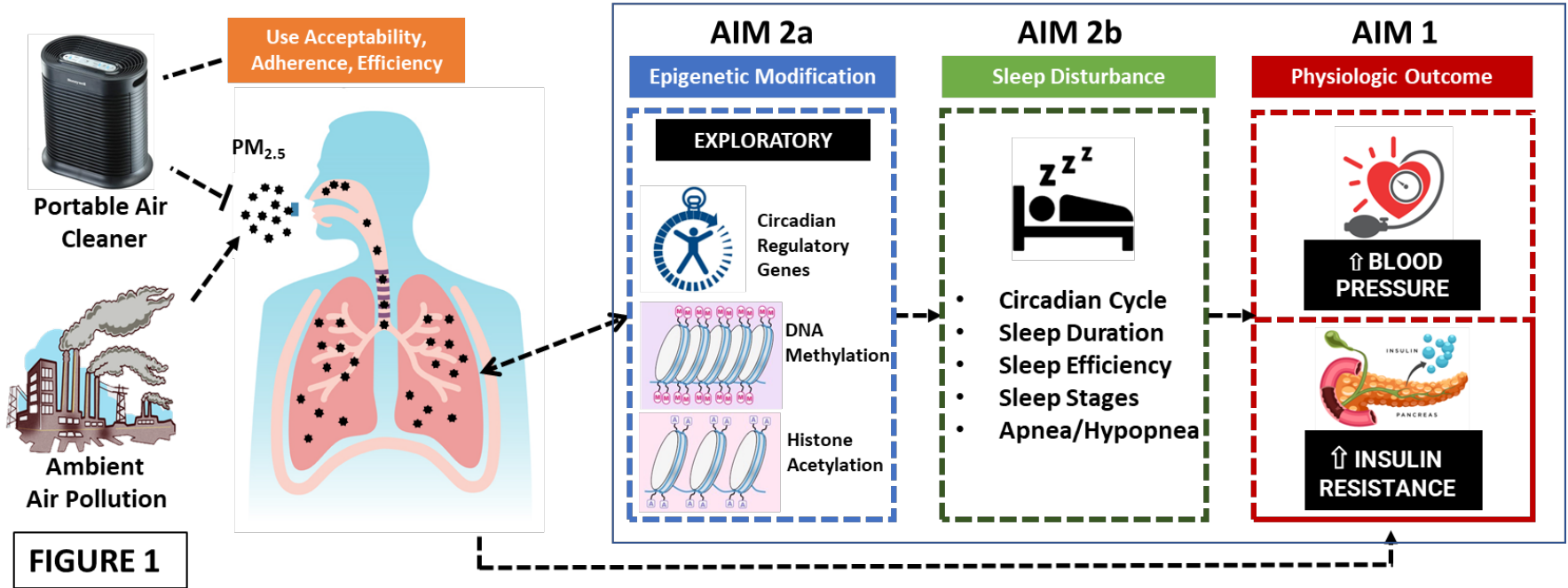
PM2.5 is associated with all-cause mortality in patients with T2D, particularly in Socially-Deprived Individuals



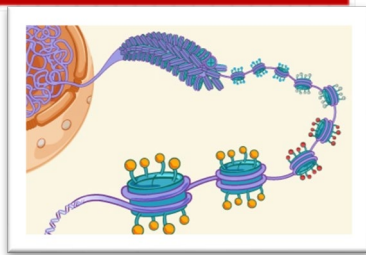
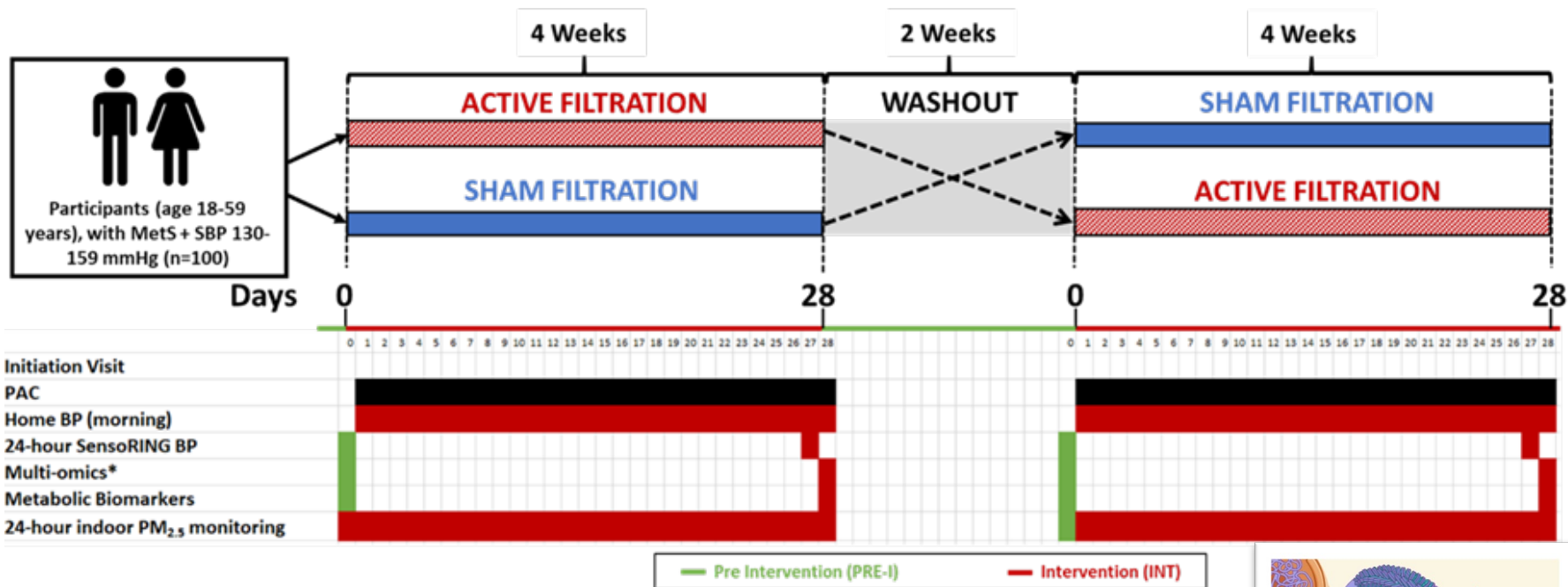
Personal Mitigation Strategies for Air Pollution



Air Pollution and Cardiovascular disease In Qatar, an interventional study to reduce Blood Pressure and Insulin Resistance: The APCIQ-BP trial

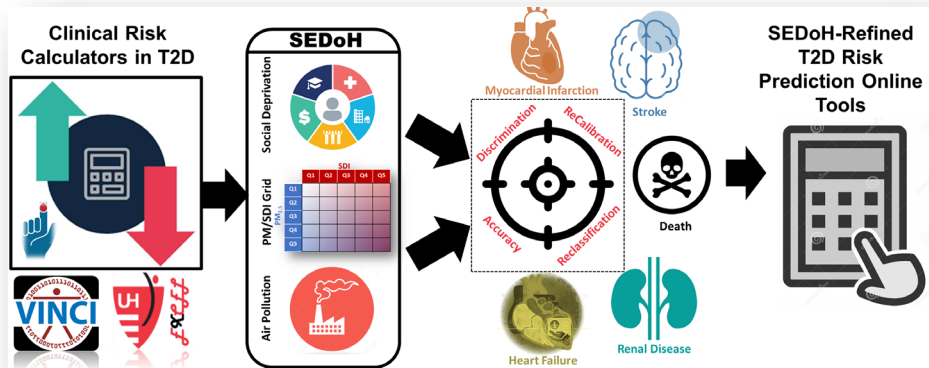
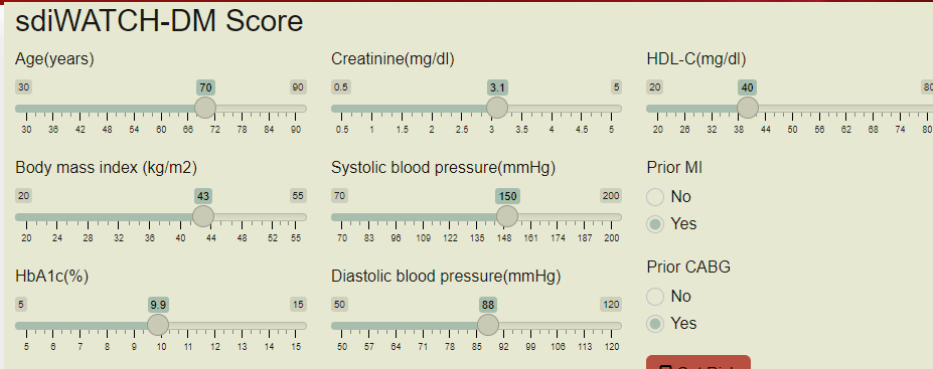
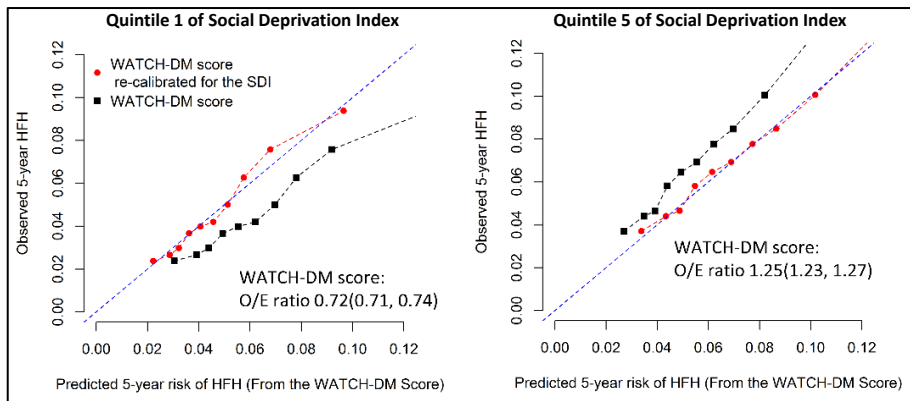


Air Pollution and Cardiovascular disease In Qatar, an interventional study to reduce Blood Pressure: The APCIQ-BP trial



NPRP14S-0314-210047
PIs: Abi Khalil and Al-Kindi

Incorporating SEDoH in Risk Prediction – The ZIP code Refined Risk Models in T2D



zip code Map

5-digit Zip code: 44106

Total WATCH-DM Points: 29

5-year HFH risk: Original WATCH-DM Score 18.68%

5-year recalibrated HFH risk: sdiWATCH-DM Score 22.84%

The SDI Quintile according to the zip code: 5

The WATCH-DM Score is a model to predict the 5-year heart failure hospitalization risk (HFH) in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM). The model contains the following variables; age, body mass index, blood pressure

We have recalibrated the score using data from more than 1,000,000 US Veterans receiving outpatient care in the VA healthcare system. We have used their residential zip codes to determine their social deprivation index (SDI) and present the recalibrated 5-year risk for

CARB Contract for Metabolic Health Outcomes (Lead: Jason Su, PhD – UCB)

Incidence of Diabetes (CHIS)

Diabetes ED visit (HCAI)

Diabetes-Related Mortality (CDPH)

Task 1: Literature review of concentration-response functions of air pollution with metabolic outcomes

Task 2: Develop daily air pollution models and surfaces for criteria pollutants

Task 3: Develop monthly air pollution models and surfaces for air toxics

Task 4: Data acquisition of human subject's data for 2010-2021, geocoding, and Institutional Review Board (IRB) application

Task 5: Estimate short-term and long-term air pollution exposures for individual air pollutants and simultaneous exposures to multiple air pollutants (criteria pollutants)

Task 6: Estimate economic benefits from reducing air pollution exposures on metabolic health outcomes, stratified by race/ethnicity, and neighborhood deprivation status in California

Task 7: Project Reporting

Thank you!

Email: sadeer.al-kindi@case.edu

Funding

Wolfe Family Fund

Prentiss Foundation

U01CA260513

R35ES031702

P50MD017351

UH Informatics Award

Leonard Rosenberg Foundation



University Hospitals

Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute

Cleveland | Ohio



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

Reminders

- ADA-compliant slides will be posted on the website (registrants will receive a notice when they are posted).
- We will have a public comment period at the end of the meeting.
- Online public comment log will be open after the meeting (registrants will receive a notice when this is open for submissions).
- If you have any technical issues *during* the meeting, please email my colleague, Dr. Arash Mohegh, arash.mohegh@arb.ca.gov



Bhavna Shamasunder, PhD, MES

Chair & Associate Professor, Urban & Environmental
Policy

Occidental College

Dr. Shamasunder teaches and conducts research at the intersection of environmental health & justice with a focus on inequalities in chemical exposures faced by low-income communities and communities of color who live and work in urban and/or industrial environments.



Air pollution, Disparate Risk, and Environmental Justice

OXY
Occidental
College

Bhavna Shamasunder

Occidental College

Urban & Environmental Policy Department

Public Health Program

Air Pollution & Cumulative Burden



- Communities have struggled for an approach to addressing disproportionate and cumulative burdens for decades.
- Through tools such as Cal EnviroScreen that have emerged from these efforts, we have a context for recognizing cumulative environmental and social harm, and we can better identify the communities impacted by **overlapping cumulative environmental, economic, and social burdens**
- A strong and growing body of research evidence demonstrates **disparities in air pollution exposures and in related health burdens** for communities of color, particularly Black and Latinx communities

Air Pollution and Environmental Injustice

While air quality has improved across the United States over the past decades (i.e. Fann et al, 2017; Sullivan et al, 2018)

Communities of color are still systematically exposed to higher levels of air pollution (i.e Demetillo et al, 2021; Kravitz-Wirtz et al, 2016)

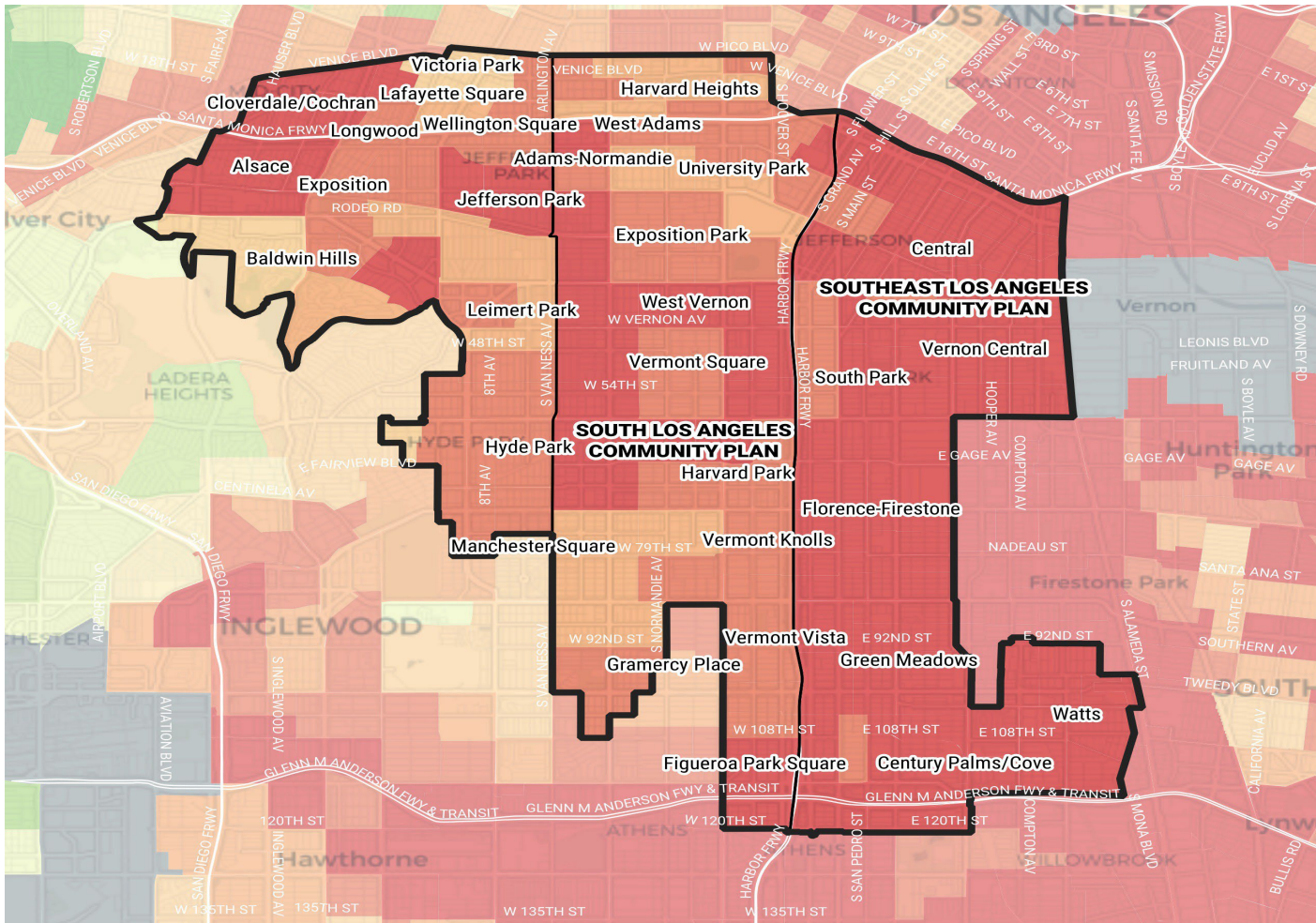
Communities of color are exposed to higher levels of air pollution at every income level (Liu et al, 2021; Clark et al, 2017; Tessum et al, 2021)



Local and Hyperlocal Air Pollution Patterns

- When we often consider air quality at the regional scale, we miss these important differences in air quality across a region.
- Studies such as mobile monitoring has observed **highly localized** air pollution patterns and **intraurban disparities** in air pollution (Chambliss et al, 2021).
- These studies suggest a **community centered approach** that accounts for hyperlocal and local scales via identifying neighborhood features that contribute to higher pollution, and constructing targeted interventions

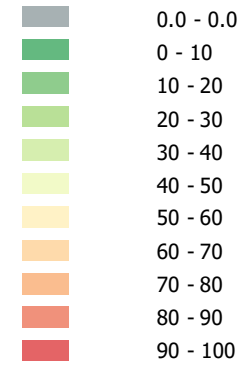
South Central Los Angeles Community

Updated: 2.24.2021



-  South Central Los Angeles Community Area
-  LACITY Community Plans

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results
Percentile of Vulnerability



AREPORT ON THE FIRST PHASE OF AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT IN SOUTHCENTRAL LOS ANGELES, 2019-2020

SEPTEMBER 30, 2020



SOUTH CENTRAL
LOS ANGELES
PROJECT TO
UNDERSTAND
THE SOURCES AND
HEALTH IMPACTS
OF LOCAL
POLLUTION



This series of maps shows what we know about air pollution in South Central LA. The three types of pollution represented are ozone, diesel, and particulate matter. The darker the color, the higher the concentration of air pollution.



FIGURE 2: CAL ENVIROSCREEN 3.0 MAPS



OZONE

Concentration CalEnviroScreen 3.0



DIESEL

Particulate Matter CalEnviroScreen 3.0

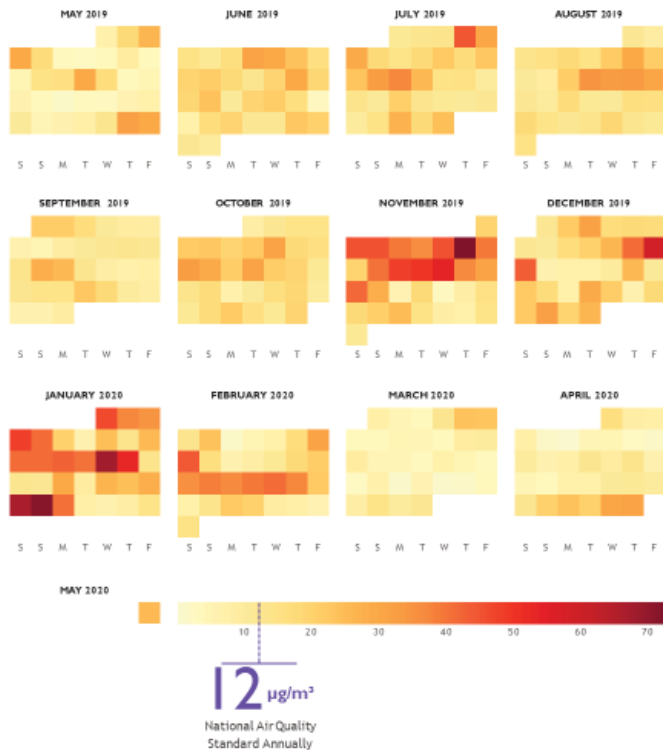


PM 2.5

Concentration CalEnviroScreen 3.0

Among the monitors in South Central LA, the previous figure shows the average daily concentration of PM_{2.5} measured by all the PurpleAir monitors located within South Central LA. We observe the highest concentration in the winter months as shown on the calendar below figure 12.

FIGURE 12: AVERAGE PM_{2.5} FROM ALL PURPLEAIR MONITORS IN SOUTH CENTRAL LA BETWEEN MAY 2019 - MAY 2020



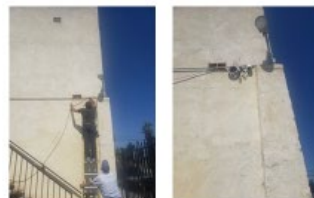
The EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM_{2.5} averaged over a year is 12µg/m³. The standard for PM_{2.5} over a 24-hour period is 35µg/m³, meaning over any 24-hour period the average PM_{2.5} concentration should not exceed 35µg/m³. However, human health studies have observed harmful effects at concentrations even below 12 µg/m³.

TABLE 3: AIR QUALITY INDEX

PM _{2.5}	Air quality	Who is at risk
0-12.5	Good	Air quality is considered satisfactory and air pollution poses little or no risk.
12.5-35	Moderate	Air quality is acceptable; however, a moderate health concern for people unusually sensitive to air pollution.
35-70	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects.
>70	Unhealthy	Everyone may begin to experience health effects.

The results from the preliminary community air monitoring data show that the air quality in South Central Los Angeles is overall between moderate and unhealthy for sensitive groups. In the next section, we will describe how we corroborated the monitoring results by layering the data from the Mapping Workshop, Ground-Truthing Walks, portable and stationary air monitoring equipment into the StoryMap to demonstrate pollution and cumulative burden.

Air pollution in Southern California does not impact all communities equally. People of color in the United States are more likely to live in polluted neighborhoods or near facilities emitting PM_{2.5}. Human exposure to particulate matter, even at low levels, is known to impact health across the lifespan. According to the EPA standards, while air quality may be considered acceptable at moderate levels, if communities are exposed for 24 hours there are health concerns.

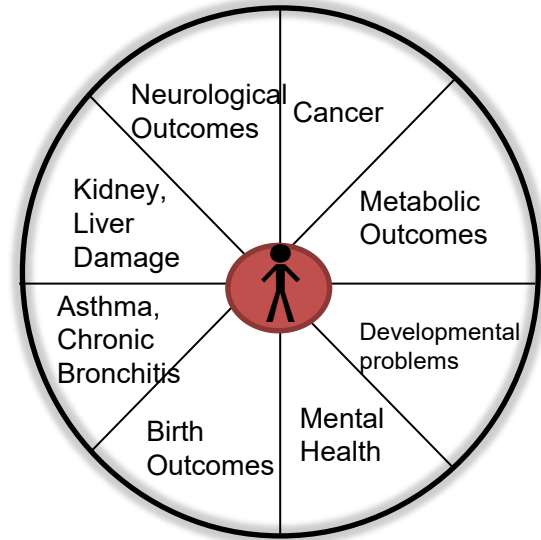


Air pollution is linked with a range of adverse health outcomes, both acute and chronic

The speakers in this session have walked through the evidence on air pollution's links to worsened birth outcomes; neurodevelopmental outcomes; and metabolic outcomes

Air Pollution is linked with a range of adverse health outcomes but CARB only quantifies a few currently--Cardiopulmonary mortality; hospitalizations for heart and lung causes; emergency room visits for asthma

However, **we know that there is a growing body of likely to be causal, strongly suggestive, and suggestive evidence** for the endpoints discussed here today.



Supporting Environmental Justice

Further, air pollution is linked to exposures beyond PM 2.5

Noncancer Health Effects from Air Toxics are not included in CARB calculations. They could **implement a broader range of calculations for noncancer health effects** (such as discussed today), including not assuming there is a threshold for noncancer effects.

The 2004 Environmental Justice Action Plan by the CalEPA guided Boards, Offices, and Departments (including CARB) to “*Develop guidance on precautionary approaches*” along with “*guidance on cumulative impacts analysis*”. We need to be doing both in tandem to implement environmental justice relevant approaches that will reduce air pollution related health disparities. **CARB should utilize the best available science for a range of health endpoints.**

A series of papers published by Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment are instructive for a “how” path forward, including supporting **better inclusion of science into risk evaluation and considering real world exposures**

EPA needs a bigger umbrella

The problem EPA's approach to **risk evaluation** leaves many people unprotected from harmful chemicals

assuming everyday exposures do no harm

failing to account for underlying conditions like infertility and Parkinson's

failing to consider people exposed to multiple pollutants

The solution EPA can **protect more people** by using updated methods* that more realistically estimate real-world risk and harm.

EPA needs more inclusive methods to protect people better from harmful chemicals.

*Probabilistic methods in chemical risk evaluations

UCSF Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment

Science Action Network FOR HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

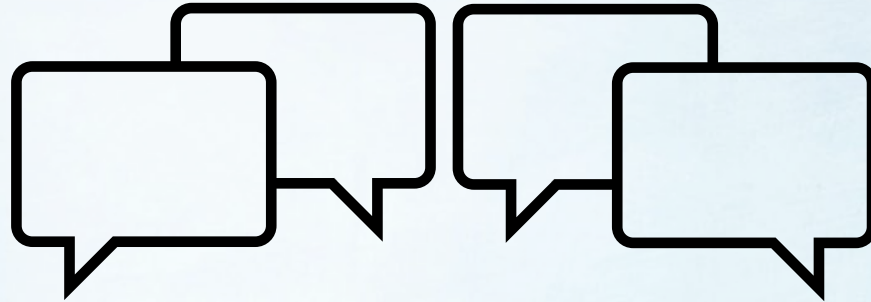
Thank you (and to our SCLA PUSH partners)

bhavna@oxy.edu



Omar Ureta





Panel Discussion

Possible Topics for Health Outcomes & Community Health Issues Discussion

- Prioritization of health endpoints
- New approaches to health analysis
- Integration of cumulative impacts into health analysis
- How agencies could move forward to understand and act on health effects where less information is available


10-Minute Break

Return at:

11:05 AM Pacific Time

2:05 PM Eastern Time

Agenda

- 9am • **Introduction**
- **Research on Air Pollution and Health Outcomes & Community Health Issues**
 - Presentations
 - Panel discussion with Scientific Health Experts
- 11am • **BREAK (10 min)**
- **Approaches for Health Benefit Valuation** 
 - Presentations
 - Panel discussion with Scientific Health Experts
- 12pm • **Public comment**
- **Closing**

Presenters & Topics:

Approaches for Health Benefit Valuation



Pete Maniloff, PhD

US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)

Topic: Current US EPA methods



Al McGartland, PhD

US EPA

Topic: Emerging approaches

Pete Maniloff, PhD

Economist

US EPA, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards



Dr. Maniloff is an environmental economist at the U.S. EPA. He works to improve how the Agency values changes in air quality.

Al McGartland, PhD

Director, National Center for Environmental Economics
US EPA



In his position at the EPA, Dr. McGartland advises senior leadership on regulatory analyses, science and environmental policy, while leading assessments on the benefits and cost-effectiveness of various environmental programs.

Towards More Complete Benefits Assessments

Al McGartland*

US EPA

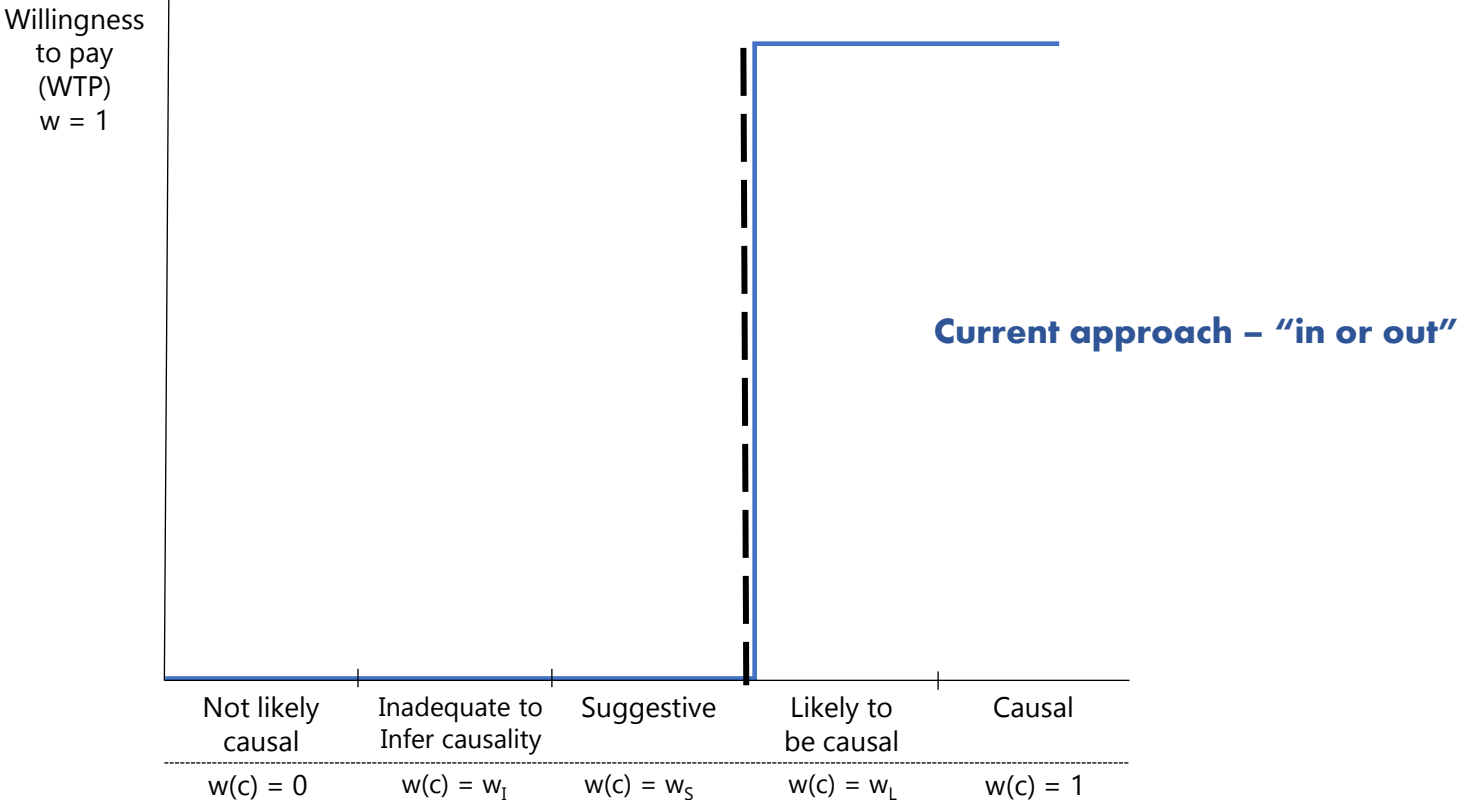
March 22, 2023

Director, National Center for Environmental Economics, US EPA. The views expressed here are solely mine and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Topics

- Quantification of health benefits: The “all in or all out “ problem.
- Willingness to Pay Or Cost of Illness; Willingness to Pay and Cost of Illness
- Capturing noncancer health endpoints: toxic chemicals and dose-response functions
- Quantifying additional benefits of air pollution reductions
 - Labor productivity
 - Cognitive impacts
 - Respiratory disease morbidity
 - Altruism

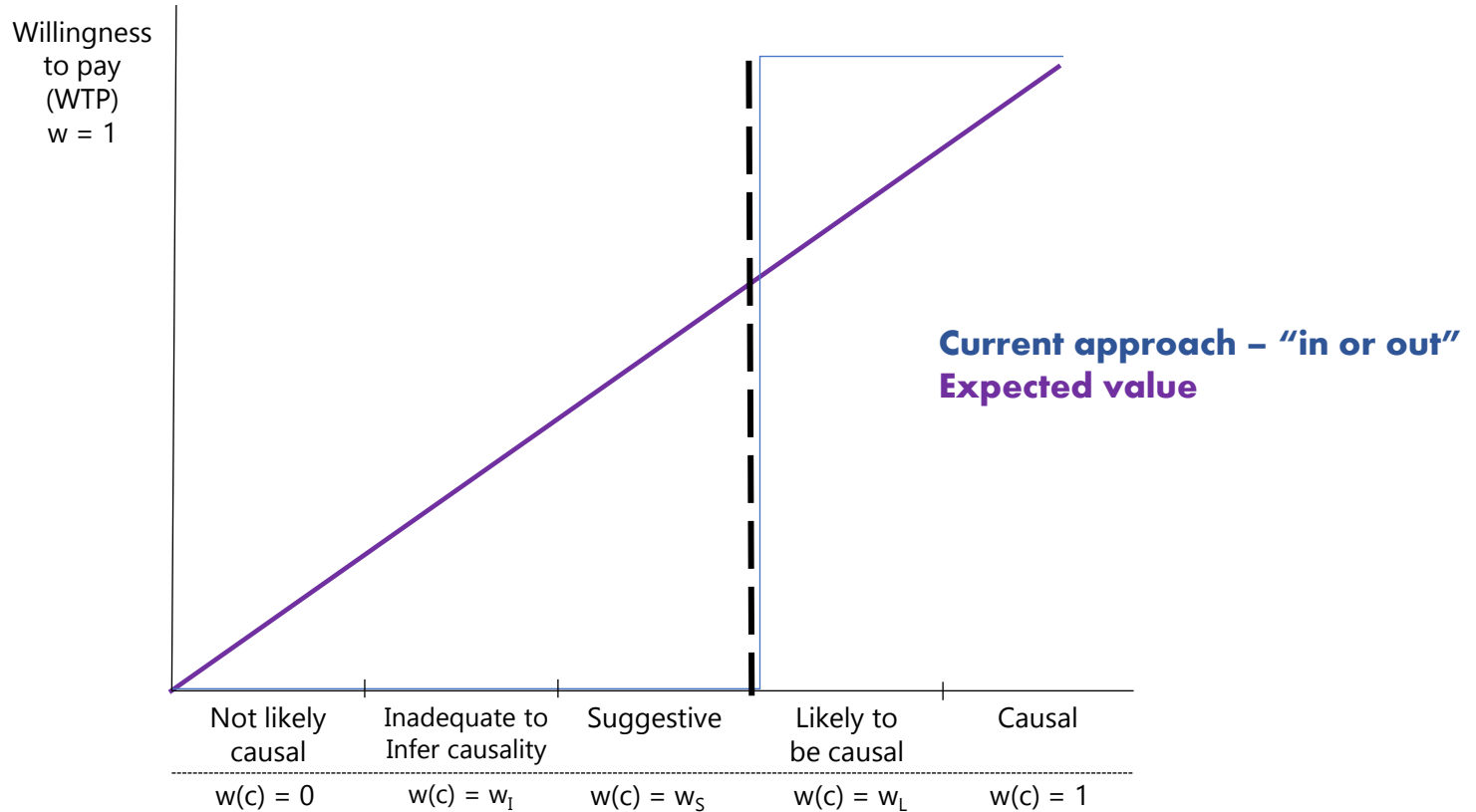
Everything that isn't "causal/Likely causal" is assigned zero benefit.



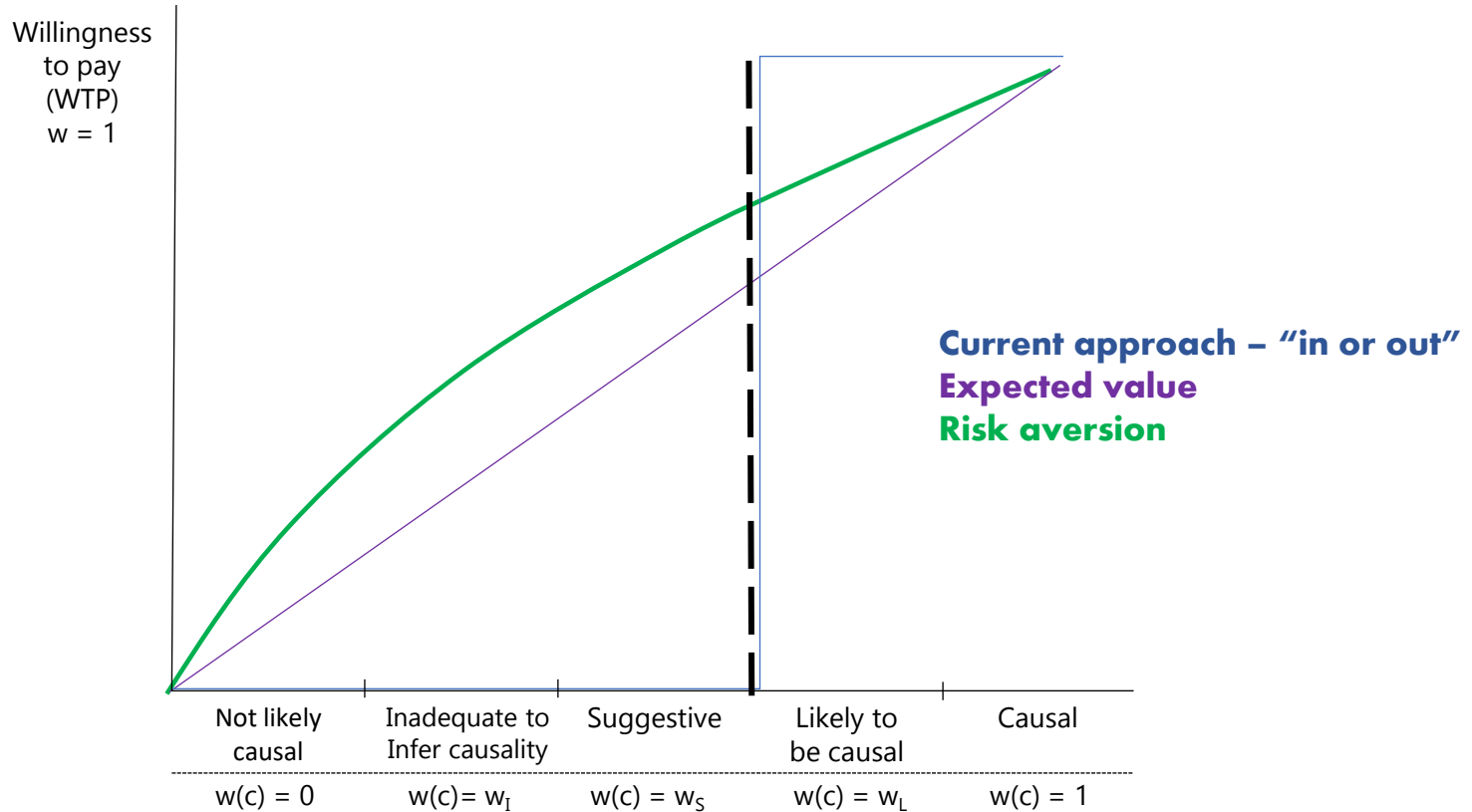
When is Science Sufficient to Quantify Benefits?

- In BCA, benefits are valued by what individuals would be **willing to pay** (WTP) for the environmental improvements resulting from the regulation (including reduced exposure to potential hazards)
 - Uncertainty does NOT imply no willingness to pay to avoid these risks; quite the opposite. (We buy insurance for all kinds of uncertain outcomes.)
 - With advances in causal inference, we have higher empirical confidence in causality.
- Current Practice:
 - Typically, quantify benefit endpoints deemed “causal” or “likely causal”, but do not quantify “suggestive” endpoints (based on causality determinations in the NAAQS ISAs)
 - In a Sept. 2020 letter, the SAB recommended EPA consider potential inclusion of effects for which the relationship may be less certain, but the impact would be substantial

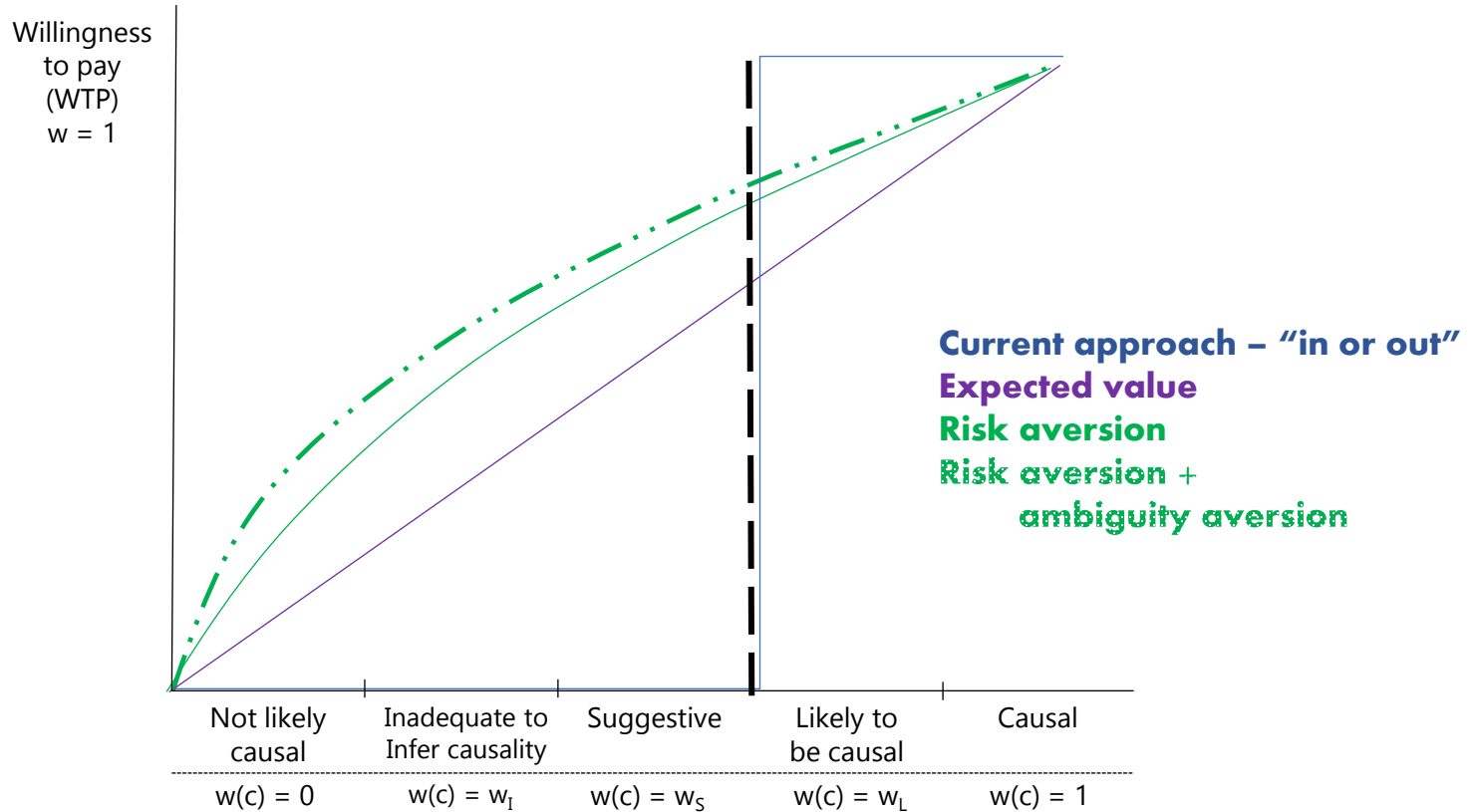
How to incorporate causality in valuation?



How to incorporate causality in valuation?



How to incorporate causality in valuation?

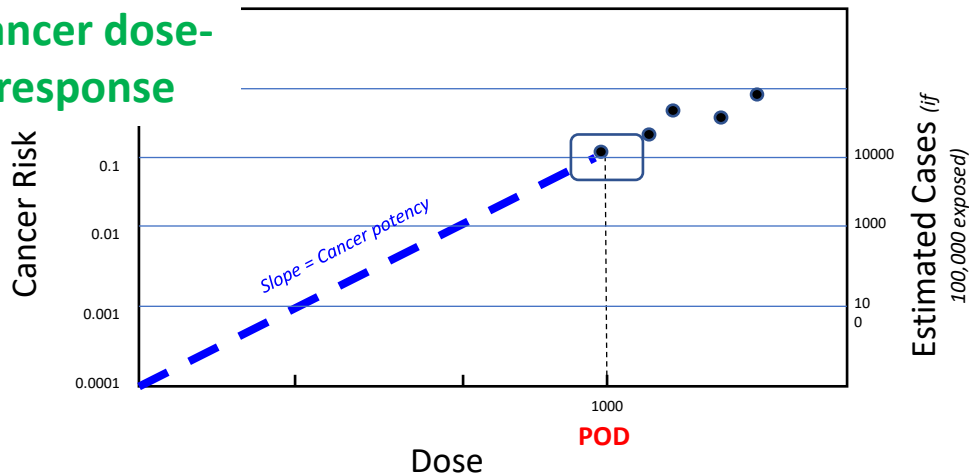


Noncancer Health Endpoints

- “Historically, dose-response assessments at EPA have been conducted differently for cancer and non-cancer effects, and the methods have been criticized for not providing the most useful results. Consequently, non-cancer effects have been underemphasized, especially in benefit-cost analyses. A consistent approach to risk assessment for cancer and non-cancer effects is scientifically feasible and needs to be implemented.”

-from NAS Science and Decisions report, 2009

Cancer dose-response

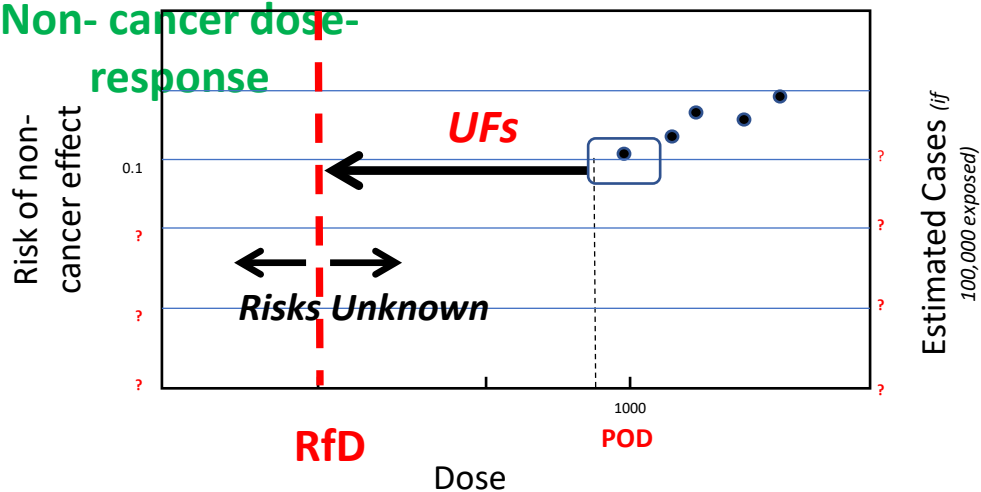


Quantified Benefits

Criteria pollutants - usually epidemiology for D-R

Toxics & cancer - generally assume linear D-R to the origin

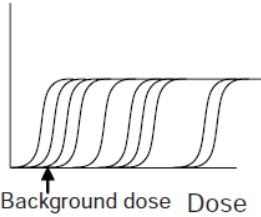
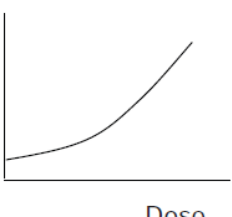
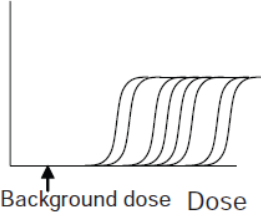
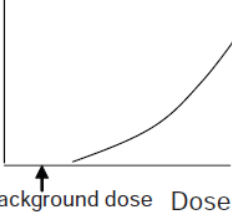
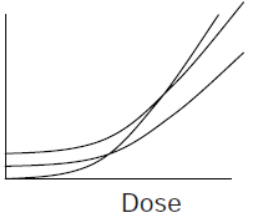
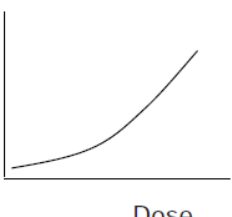
Non-cancer dose-response



Unquantified Benefits

Toxics & noncancer - reference values or margin or exposure

Conceptual models describing individual and population dose-response relationships

Conceptual Models for Low-Dose-Response	Individual Dose-Response	Population Dose-Response
1. An individual's: Nonlinear The population: Linear	Probability of Effect  <p>Background dose Dose</p>	Fraction of Population Affected  <p>Dose</p>
2. An individual's: Nonlinear The population: Nonlinear	Probability of Effect  <p>Background dose Dose</p>	Fraction of Population Affected  <p>Background dose Dose</p>
3. An individual's: Linear The population: Linear	Probability of Effect  <p>Dose</p>	Fraction of Population Affected  <p>Dose</p>

PM effects quantified and monetized in Economic Analyses

Premature mortality from exposure to PM _{2.5}	Adult premature mortality from long-term exposure (age 65-99 or age 30-99)
	Infant mortality (age <1)
	Heart attacks (age > 18)
	Hospital admissions—cardiovascular (ages 65-99)
	Emergency department visits— cardiovascular (age 0-99)
	Hospital admissions—respiratory (ages 0-18 and 65-99)
	Emergency room visits—respiratory (all ages)
	Cardiac arrest (ages 0-99; excludes initial hospital and/or emergency department visits)
	Stroke (ages 65-99)
	Asthma onset (ages 0-17)
	Asthma symptoms/exacerbation (6-17)
	Lung cancer (ages 30-99)
	Allergic rhinitis (hay fever) symptoms (ages 3-17)

Nonfatal morbidity from exposure to PM _{2.5}	Lost work days (age 18-65)
	Minor restricted-activity days (age 18-65)
	Hospital admissions—Alzheimer's disease (ages 65-99)
	Hospital admissions—Parkinson's disease (ages 65-99)

Willingness to Pay and Cost of Illness

Very few morbidity effects valued with WTP

Systematic undervaluation of morbidity effects

WTP is a more complete measure of value

WTP can be additive to COI values if both are estimated consistently

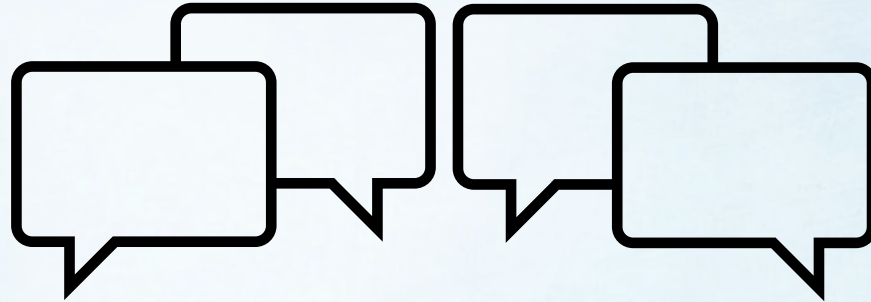
Towards More Complete Benefits Assessment

- The current literature could support quantification of additional benefits:
 - Labor productivity
 - Cognitive Impacts
 - Respiratory disease burden
 - Altruism related to disproportionate exposures

Moving Towards a More-Complete Accounting of Benefits

The current literature could support quantification of additional benefits:

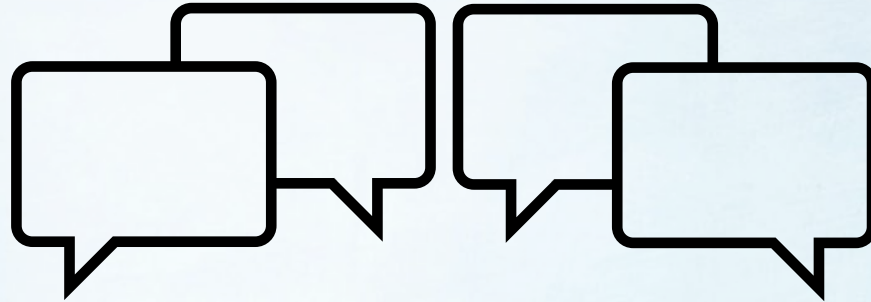
- Labor productivity
 - For a literature review, see [Lu, “Air pollution: A systematic review of its psychological, economic, and social effects,” 2020.](#)
 - Labor productivity effects extend to politicians’ speech quality ([Heyes et al., “Pollution and Politicians,” 2017.](#)
- Cognitive Impacts
 - For a literature review, see [Aguilar-Gomez et al., “This is Air: The ‘Non-Health’ Effects of Air pollution”, 2022.](#)
 - Test scores and later earnings ([Ebenstein et al., “The Long-Run Economic Consequences of High Stakes Examinations,” 2016.](#)
 - Increased risk and accelerated progression of dementia ([Bishop et al., “Hazed and Confused,” 2022](#) and [Li et al., “Long-term effects of PM2.5 components on incident dementia in the northeastern United States,” 2022.](#)
- Respiratory disease burden
 - Air pollution exposure increases hospitalizations related to the annual flu ([Graff Zivin et al, “When Externalities Collide: Influenza and Pollution,” 2022.](#)
 - Poor air quality increased mortality from COVID-19 ([Isphording and Pestel, “Pandemic Meets Pollution,” 2021.](#)



Panel Discussion

Possible Topics for Valuation Discussion

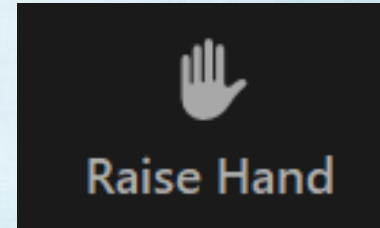
- New approaches to valuation
- Challenges and obstacles to valuation
- How to assess health effects that are not traditionally valued

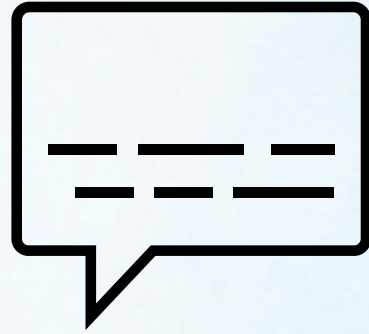


Public Comments

Format for Public Comment

- We will have a public comment period at the end of the meeting
 - To provide verbal comment, you may raise your hand to be added to the speaking queue. →
 - Leave your hand raised until you are called upon to provide your comment.
 - Comments are limited to 2 minutes.
- Online public comment log will be open after the meeting (registrants will receive a notice when this is open for submissions).





Closing

Scientific Health Expert Panelists



Irva Hertz-Picciotto, PhD, MPH

Professor and Vice Chair for Research
Director, UC Davis Environmental Health Sciences
Center
Dept of Public Health Sciences
UC Davis, School of Medicine



Michael Jerrett, PhD

Director, UCLA Center for Occupational &
Environmental Health
Co-Director, Center for Healthy Climate Solutions
Professor, Dept of Environmental Health Sciences,
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health



Rob McConnell, MD

Professor of Population and Public Health Sciences
Director, Southern California Environmental Health
Sciences Center
USC



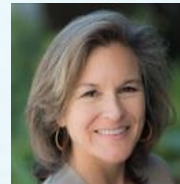
Penelope JE (Jenny) Quintana, PhD, MPH

Professor, Division of Environmental Health and
Associate Director for Student Affairs
School of Public Health
San Diego State University



Bhavna Shamasunder, PhD, MES

Chair & Associate Professor, Urban & Environmental
Policy
Occidental College



Tracey J. Woodruff, PhD, MPH

Alison S. Carlson Endowed Professor and Director,
Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment
& Environmental Research and Translation for Health
(EaRTH) Center
UCSF



Thanks!